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# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 345

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2008

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
Do you think there should have been a run-off in the non-voting delegate election, since none of the candidates won a majority of the votes?

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**71** without a government budget for **DAYS** FY 2009

## INSIDE

### Jet Crash

A fighter jet crashed in flames in a San Diego neighborhood, killing three on the ground and leaving one missing.

**NATION...Page 15**



### Reusable Bags

Tan Holdings Corp. has partnered with Joeten Corp for its 3R reusable shopping bag campaign.

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 18**

Lawmakers want \$400K split among court judgments. **PAGE 3**  
Camacho says he could be leaving CPA 'soon.' **PAGE 5**

## BALLESTEROS MURDER CASE

# Teen suspects plead not guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The three teenagers accused of killing and robbing a security guard during a burglary at Marianas High School in Susupe last month pleaded innocent at their arraignment yesterday.

Eric Rabauliman, Edward Blas, and Randy Igisomar, through their court-appointed lawyers, pleaded not guilty to the information charging them with murder in the first degree during the perpetration of burglary and or robbery.

*See TEEN on Page 4*

## 'Investigation on Villagomez done by the book'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The U.S. government did not violate any due process procedures in its investigation of Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez and his three co-defendants, according to a U.S. government lawyer.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley said the conduct described in Villagomez's motion



*See INVESTIGATION on Page 4*



### CHRISTMAS ART EXHIBIT

Art coordinator Parker Yobei arranges one of the art crafts on display at the Council of Arts and Culture office on Capital Hill. The items are part of the ongoing annual Christmas arts exhibit. *See story on Page 7.*

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

## Bush may scale back marine reserve plan

By RICHARD HARRIS  
*ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, NPR*

Two years ago, President Bush won high praise from a group that's been largely critical of him: environmentalists. They were elated after the president declared a huge area near Hawaii a protected marine monument.

The White House is now trying to secure the president's place in ocean history with a similar preserve elsewhere in the Pacific. Only this time,



*'They run the risk, if they start to listen to too many constituencies, of making essentially everyone unhappy.'*

—Jay Nelson of the Pew Environment Group

the political sailing isn't so smooth, and the administration may be scaling back its ambitious plans.

The heart of the new marine monument would be in U.S. territorial waters north of Guam—the

*See BUSH on Page 4*

**Fitial: Collect all past due CUC payments**

By KRISTI EATON  
[Kristi\\_eaton@saipantribune.com](mailto:Kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno Fitial is urging Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muña to pursue all past due accounts owed the utility company.

*See FITIAL on Page 4*

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# TRENCH WARZ IX

## THE ANNIHILATION

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## Local

# Video shop employee in piracy case gets three-year probation

The federal court imposed yesterday a three-year probation sentence on an employee of a video shop where the Federal Bureau of Investigation seized thousands of pirated DVDs and VHS tapes.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson also ordered Min Jo to perform 100 hours of community service.

Munson referred the 51-year-old Korean to the NMI Immigration to determine if he is a deportable alien. The judge also required the defendant to pay a \$100 court assessment fee.

Munson granted Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Schuler's motion that all property seized in the case shall be forfeited to

the U.S. government.

Munson ordered that the seized items be delivered to the FBI and that the property be dispersed as the FBI deems proper.

In yesterday's hearing, Schuler recommended a one-year probation sentence and one-year suspended release. Schuler noted that Jo accepted responsibility for his actions at the early stage of the case.

Jo, through counsel, concurred with Schuler's recommendation.

Jo and his manager, Il Cho, were arrested a few weeks after the FBI raided Seoul Video Store in Chalan Kanoa on March 26, 2008.

The two were charged with one count of conspiracy, two counts of copyright infringement, and three counts of trafficking in counterfeit labels.

The defendants entered a plea agreement with the U.S. government. Both pleaded guilty to one count of trafficking in counterfeit labels. The remaining charges were dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

Last week, the court also imposed the same sentence on Cho.

An FBI agent said that after the arrest, Cho and Jo admitted that they purchased DVDs from Korea and were copying them onto VHS tapes for sale and rent to customers. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## Back 2 Basics

The Marianas  
 Cultural Diversity:

### "Melting Pot or Salad Bowl?"

December 11, 2008 • 6:30pm-8:30pm  
 American Memorial Park Auditorium

**Lecturer: Dr. Robert Underwood,  
 President University of Guam  
 Free Admission**

Join Dr. Robert Underwood in a lively discussion about whether the cultural groups in the Marianas are truly melting together (as has been boasted through various marketing and promotional literature) or if they exist separately and within their own subgroups, like the ingredients of a salad bowl.

The community and representatives of local cultural associations and organizations are invited to share their perspectives and experiences after the lecture. Student cultural groups from the local high schools are also invited to participate to share their views.

The event will be streamed live on the internet at [www.wethepeoplecnmi.com](http://www.wethepeoplecnmi.com). For more information please email [taroleafgroup@gmail.com](mailto:taroleafgroup@gmail.com).

*"From Many, One: Exploring Democracy in a Multi-Cultural Commonwealth"*



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# Lawmakers want \$400K split among court judgments

By AGNES E. DONATO  
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REPORTER

The Legislature is proposing to set aside nearly \$400,000 for the payment of court judgments against the Commonwealth government.

Under the proposed fiscal year 2009 budget, which awaits the governor's action, individuals who have won lawsuits against the government and have been awarded money by the courts will share proportionately the \$387,766 appropriation for court judgments.

The provision was included after a recent federal court ruling, which called for a freeze

of government assets until payment of a land compensation claim was made. The lawmakers added a provision to distribute the payments proportionately with the intent to ensure fairness among the claimants.

But the Department of Finance has raised concern about the provision, saying that resulting payments might be too little.

Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos, in a written comment submitted to lawmakers, noted that the language in the bill refers to all judgments entered and currently payment, and not just limited to the land acquisition cases. The government owes

approximately \$10 million in court judgments.

"Under this scenario," Inos said, "a proportionate distribution would result in payment of only 3.88 percent of the individual judgments."

On Oct. 28, 2008, the

U.S. District Court for the NMI ordered the U.S. Marshal to seize Department of Public Lands funds held in bank accounts, goods, and any other property to satisfy over \$263,000 in judgment, costs, and interest to Antonio

S. Camacho. The court order was designed to enforce a 2006 judgment, which found DPL's predecessor, the defunct Marianas Public Lands Authority, liable to pay \$234,000 to Camacho for the government's taking of his

land in Gualo Rai.

Judge Alex Munson maintained that the court has the power to enforce its judgments against the CNMI government even if the Legislature has not appropriated money to satisfy those judgments.

## Senate congratulates Palau's new leaders

The Senate has offered its congratulations to the newly elected leaders of the Republic of Palau.

The lawmakers adopted a resolution extending their congratulations to Palau President-elect Ngiraked Johnson Toribiong and Vice President-

elect Kerai Mariur on their election to office.

The two were elected on Nov. 4, 2008, after securing 51 percent of the votes.

Toribiong and Mariur will be sworn into office on Jan. 15, 2009. They will succeed incumbent President Tommy Remen-

gasau, who was ineligible to run because he has served the maximum two terms allowed, and incumbent Vice President Elias Chin, who was this election's runner up for president.

"The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Palau share close political,

economic and historical ties as Pacific island neighbors," states the Senate resolution. "The people of the Commonwealth join their Palauan neighbors in commanding Ngiraked Johnson Toribiong and Kerai Mariur on their election to Palau's highest posts." (Agnes E. Donato)

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# 140 Guam Army Guard soldiers return home

About 140 soldiers of the Guam Army National Guard's "Ayuyu" Company, 1st Battalion ("Chamorri"), 294th Infantry Regt., Guam Army National Guard. "This is the first time in a long time that a majority of our soldiers and airmen will be home for the Christmas holiday."

"We'll continue to keep all soldiers, airmen and their families who won't be home this holiday in our thoughts and prayers," added Charfauros.

"We're all very excited and happy for our soldiers' return," said Lt. Col. George Charfauros.

The core of the unit is built around an infantry company with a support element comprising soldiers mainly from the Guam Army Guard's Forward Support Company and various other units. The Support Element provided logistic, maintenance, medical, and administrative support to the infantry company.

The soldiers provided security for units operating in the

assigned Area of Operation and training to the Afghan National Security Forces.

The unit conducted over 600 combat patrols, training operations and humanitarian assistance in support of Task Force Currahee, 101st Airborne Division.

The bulk of the soldiers arrived at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, on Nov. 25, where Maj. Gen. Donald J. Goldhorn, the Adjutant General, and other key

leaders welcomed them back.

On Thanksgiving Day, the soldiers were able to enjoy a Thanksgiving holiday meal, barbecue-style, at Richardson Field, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, with the help of the Battalion's Family Readiness Group and the Purple Ribbon Campaign.

"This mission provided a number of good experiences and opportunities, but we suffered a terrible loss of two of our soldiers,"

said Sgt. Matthew Quitugua, 1-294th Inf. Regt. "We are very grateful to be here [in Hawaii], but we also wish Sergeants Mora and Leon Guerrero could've been here with us, too."

"We're all looking forward to being home for Christmas with our families and friends," added Quitugua.

The unit was last deployed in 2004 for a year to the Horn of Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa. (PR)

## TEEN

From Page 1

The 18-year-old Rabauliman also pleaded not guilty to two counts of burglary, one count of conspiracy to commit assault with a dangerous weapon and burglary, two counts of theft, and one count of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Chief prosecutor Kevin Lynch earlier disclosed that Blas and Ijisomar would be charged with

burglary, theft, and assault with a dangerous weapon in juvenile court because both are only 16 years old.

Superior Court presiding Judge Robert Naraja set a status conference for Jan. 12, 2009 at 1:30pm. Naraja ordered the three to appear at the status conference.

At the Jan. 12 hearing, the judge said, the parties in the case should be prepared to advise the court whether the matter will be disposed of by a change of plea, trial, or other disposition.

"The parties should also be prepared to select a trial date for this case," said Naraja in a separate case management order.

Attorney Lillian Tenorio is counsel for Rabauliman. chief public defender Adam Hardwicke is representing Ijisomar, while attorney Bruce Berline is defending Blas.

Lynch stated in the charging information that that on or about Nov. 17 or 18, 2008, Rabauliman, Blas, and Ijisomar killed Efren Lagua Ballesteros during the per-

petration or attempted perpetration of burglary and or robbery.

The chief prosecutor said Rabauliman agreed with one or more individuals "to engage in conduct resulting to bodily injury to Ballesteros," adding that Rabauliman attacked the security guard with a PVC pipe.

Lynch said Rabauliman also burglarized a classroom and the JROTC room at MHS where he stole laptop computers, cash, and a JVC camcorder.

The Superior Court has imposed

no bail for the three defendants, who are all students at MHS.

Police say Ijisomar and Rabauliman have confessed to the crime, saying that all three of them attacked the security guard with a piece of wood, a PVC pipe, and a rebar before breaking into several classrooms at MHS where they stole laptops and money.

Ballesteros, 45, was found dead at MHS campus in Susupe where he was assigned in the morning of Nov. 18, 2008. He received massive injuries to the face and

head caused by blunt objects. He also suffered a possible fractured skull, police said.

Ballesteros' wallet containing \$300 cash and a wristwatch were reportedly stolen. He had two minor children, including a five-month old baby, on Saipan.

The Saipan Pacific Winds, the CNMI's sole community concert band, will be holding a fundraising concert for the family of Ballesteros on Dec. 22 at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.

## BUSH

From Page 1

Northern Mariana Islands.

Ike Cabrerra, from the island of Saipan, is one of just a handful of people who have ever made it to the north end of the island chain.

"There's no place in the world compared to this area," Cabrerra said. "Most of the islands are volcano."

### A Plea For Protection

The waters are rich with undisturbed sea life and home to some of the world's most majestic underwater geology, including the deepest canyon in the ocean, the Mariana Trench.

But all is not perfect in paradise. While locals like Cabrerra support a marine preserve, their elected officials do not.

So Cabrerra traveled to Washington to lobby for the protected area. His traveling companion, Andrew Salas, said the politicians don't object to conservation, but they are upset with the federal government. It seems Uncle Sam recently took control of immigration policy for the Northern Marianas and also instituted the federal minimum wage.

"So this awesome idea to protect those islands came in at the wrong time, and everyone thought, 'Oh, another federal intervention,'" Salas said.

Salas and Cabrerra went to the White House this week to

plead for complete protection for an area the size of Arizona. They brought with them petitions signed by businesses, schoolchildren and 6,000 local residents. The island only has 10,000 voters.

Salas said a protected area isn't just good for the environment, but tourism could boost local businesses like his. He owns the Hawaii Bar and Grill on Saipan.

"I'm actually going to change the name of that thing as soon as this thing gets declared. I'm going to make it the Mariana Trench Bar and Grill," he said.

But to declare complete success, the conservation group will not only have to trump the local politicians: Other interest

groups have been marching into the White House with requests to argue against a fully protected monument.

### Potential Conflicts

Gordon Robertson of the American Sportfishing Association pleaded his organization's case: "Let's not make a designation and foreclose this recreational fishing right up front, because it is compatible with conservation and it is easily controlled."

The huge Hawaiian monument designated two years ago bans fishing. That did not sit well with Robertson.

"I would like to think that if that opportunity presented itself again, it would be done differently," he said.

The White House might not fully protect the area off the Northern Marianas, even though the place is so remote that there's essentially no fishing there.

The same could be true for other sites in the Pacific that the White House is also considering. The potential conflicts aren't just fishing, but include possible military uses, cultural activities, and mining and energy development, said James Connaughton, who's in charge of this issue at the White House.

"What we're trying to do is sort out where there are, in fact, some conflicting uses and sort out where those concerns don't actually exist," Connaughton said.

That could mean scaling back the size of some of the proposed preserves, or not offering complete protection everywhere.

Jay Nelson of the Pew Environment Group said so little of the ocean is undisturbed that he wants the White House to fully protect as much as it possibly can.

"They run the risk, if they start to listen to too many constituencies, of making essentially everyone unhappy," he said.

And, at this point, time is running short. Connaughton said that, in the end, he may hand off all the work he has done to the Obama administration.

## INVESTIGATION

From Page 1

alleging "outrageous" government conduct "was not excessive, flagrant, scandalous, intolerable, or offensive."

"The motion identifies no case, statute, regulation, code, rule, philosophy or ethical structure that was violated by the government's investigation. Consequently, there was no violation of due process," said O'Malley.

The prosecutor made the argument in the U.S. govern-

ment's response to the motions filed by Villagomez and co-defendants James A. Santos and Joaquina V. Santos to dismiss the indictment.

In Villagomez's motion, attorney David J. Lujan stated that the U.S. government's conduct in bringing the charges against him was "outrageous." Lujan said the charges against Villagomez were fabricated and that the federal court should dismiss the indictment.

The Guam lawyer said the U.S. government used "deceptive and coercive" means to fabricate a charge against the

lieutenant governor.

"Specifically, it used the Public Auditor of the CNMI to create the appearance that witnesses—most, if not all, government employees of the CNMI—were compelled to cooperate with the United States," he said.

Lujan also alleged that the U.S. government coached, instructed, and trained Anthony Guerrero, one of the defendants, to attempt to entice Villagomez to commit a criminal violation of some sort to fabricate a case against him.

Lujan also filed motion for a bill of particulars and a motion

to dismiss indictment for failure to state an offense. The co-defendants joined in the motions.

In the U.S. government's reply to the motions, O'Malley pointed out that the sufficiency of an indictment is not determined by whether it can be more definite or certain.

"Rather, an indictment is sufficient if it contains every element of the charged offense, fairly informs a defendant of the charges against him, and enables him to claim an acquittal or conviction to bar future prosecution for the same offense," he said.

A bill of particulars, the pros-

ecutor said, is not needed if an indictment provides enough detail to inform the defendants of the charges against them and full discovery has been provided.

In this case, O'Malley noted, the U.S. government has turned over, or has made available for inspection, all discovery materials in its possession.

He said there are roughly 100 documents directly related to the transactions at issue and that the U.S. government has already reviewed those documents with counsel for each of the defendants.

O'Malley said the U.S. govern-

ment has explained to the defense lawyers its theory of the case.

"In short, the U.S. government has done more than is required to advise the defendants as to the nature of its evidence," he said.

The indictment charged Villagomez, former Commerce Secretary James Santos, his wife Joaquina Santos, and former CUC executive director Anthony Guerrero with wire fraud, conspiracy, and theft involving federal funds.

Guerrero has already pleaded guilty. Villagomez and the Santos couple have maintained their innocence of the charges.

## FITIAL

From Page 1

A recent report by Georgetown Consulting showed that CUC's accounts receivable totaled \$31.2 million in fiscal year 2007, \$9.6 million of which came from government agencies.

In a statement, Fitial said he wants Muña to pursue all collections because "the cash-strapped CNMI government,

which has had to dramatically reduce its operating budget, is in no position to subsidize CUC operations."

According to the statement, Muña has said the CNMI central government is now current in its utility payments, but is still waiting for the Public School System to pay more than \$1 million in past utility usage fees.

"At the end of the day, disconnection will not be up to CUC; it will have to be done by urgent

necessity, as a result of actions taken by Mobil, Telesource, Aggreko, PMIC, and Shell—CUC's vendors for fuel, power, lube oil, and chlorine," Muña said in the statement.

CUC also needs funds to meet compliance requirements stipulated in an order recently filed by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, which stems from the utility company's failure to comply with federal regulations governing water, sewer,

power, and fuel.

According to Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos' fiscal year 2008 preliminary report to the House of Representatives, the government spent \$4.6 million on non-allocated utilities and \$2.7 million for fuel expenses for the year.

In September, Muña said, CUC was counting on PSS and the central government to pay their past due balance of more than \$3 million to help pay for the Aggreko generators.

Up until October 2006, the government paid for PSS' utility usage, so CUC and PSS officials had earlier determined the government would pay for that portion of the debt. But at the October Board of Education meeting, vice chair Herman Guerrero said Inos told him PSS must pay the \$414,000.

The money is still owed, and Guerrero said they would be discussing the issue today at the board's Fiscal, Personnel and Administration committee meeting.

"It is being discussed as it relates to the appropriation measure that was recently passed by the Legislature late last week," Guerrero said in an e-mail.

The Legislature passed a budget of \$165.4-million budget for fiscal year 2009. Under the proposal, personnel costs will account for \$112.2 million, or about two-thirds, of the budget. The remainder will go to operations, \$43.7 million, and utilities, \$9.5 million.



# Man throws rock at cops, resists arrest

## PUBLIC NOTICE Attention Diabetics!

Pursuant to local and federal public health guidelines you are required to obtain an eye exam prior to December 31st of each year. Failure to do so may result in serious consequences including loss of vision and permanent blindness.

The cost of your exam is covered by medical insurance. If you are unable to pay, funding is available to cover your costs.

Report immediately to Marianas Eye Institute, Beach Road Garapan Across 13 Fishermen Monument or call 235-9090. Deadline extensions available.

A man who allegedly threatened to shoot another person with a spear gun threw rocks at responding police officers in Chalan Kanoa early Saturday morning, resulting in his arrest.

Deigo Pangelinan Kaipat, 41, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing. He was detained for assault and battery, obstruction of justice, and resisting arrest.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman imposed a \$1,500 cash bail for Kaipat's temporary liberty. Preliminary hearing was set for Dec. 15, 2008 at 9am.

Detective Katherine Manglona stated in her report that police officers responded to the beach area in Chalan Kanoa after receiving a call about a disturbance that possibly involved a gun.

A man met the responding officers and pointed in the direction of a house where a man who allegedly tried to shoot him with a spear gun had gone in.

The officers identified the suspect as Kaipat, who had entered the bathroom and locked it.

Kaipat was later seen outside the house shouting that he

was going to kill someone, then himself. When the officers approached, the suspect ran off.

As they approached him again, he offered an arm to a police officer to be handcuffed. As the officer was about to cuff him, Kaipat pushed the officer and

ran away.

The suspect then picked up a rock and threw it toward the officers, forcing them to seek cover.

One officer managed to get hold of Kaipat, who struggled. The defendant was then subdued

to the ground, but he continued to resist arrest. Another officer sprayed pepper mace on Kaipat and that was the only time he was secured with the handcuffs.

Police said Kaipat has prior history of resisting police's arrest. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## Miss Marianas to receive key for one-year use of car from Triple J

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n.rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Recently crowned 2009 Miss Marianas-Universe Sorene A. Maratita will receive today the key to a brand new car from Triple J Motors that she will use for a year as one of her prizes in winning the pageant.

Maratita also won \$1,000 cash and \$1,000 scholarship from event organizer Stellar Marianas.

She also won an all-expense paid travel opportunity to compete at the 2009 Miss Universe Pageant, courtesy of Northwest, as well as in the 2009 Miss International Pageant.

Maratita will also get to travel to approved Marianas Visitors Authority off-island events, a free cell phone from PTI, and a one-year supply of Ponds, Doves and Suave products from Marianas Pacific Distributors.

She also won a one-year membership and personal trainer at Gold's Gym Saipan, \$100 gift certificate from Sportica, professional model portfolio from MHS productions, four piece luggage set from Stellar Marianas, \$100 gift certificate from Pena House Boutique, and one year all-expense paid representation at approved CNMI-wide events.

Maratita will also have an

opportunity to create and implement a Community Project under her name, assisted by Stellar Marianas.

The 18-year old fresh graduate of Saipan Southern High School won three of the six special awards—Miss Photogenic, Stellar Award and Best in National Costume.

Winona Chance Camacho was adjudged as the first runner-up after taking two specials awards—best in swimsuit and best in evening gown.

The other special award, Miss Congeniality, went to Leovita Q. Cabrera.

Coronation night was held on Nov. 29 at the Palms Resort.

## 14 kids join 1st Camp Hyatt EXPO

A total of 14 youngsters participated in the Camp Hyatt EXPO, which ended Saturday. Next up for kids? The Christmas Camp Hyatt.

Camp Hyatt Team Leader Vangie Sablan said it was the first time they held this kind of event and that the kids had a lot of fun learning many things, including how to make the traditional mwar.

The children were also exposed to different styles of artwork such as skin-less leaf painting, as taught by Ernie David.

Other activities were sketching, finger painting, and playing tennis with the help of Vivian Lee.

But the most popular activity, Sablan said, was the swimming lesson, conducted by Hyatt Regency's certified instructor Lucio Aldan, with the help of the lifeguards.

"The kids enjoyed their day! We are looking forward to doing more of these kinds of event in the future," Sablan said.

The hotel's next event for children is the Christmas Camp Hyatt, which starts Dec. 15 and will run until Jan. 4.

"The activity that the kids did today was a small exposure to what Christmas at Camp Hyatt will be like, in addition to other fun and exciting activities during the holidays," Sablan said.

Just last Dec. 5, the Hyatt Regency Saipan lit up its giant Christmas tree at the hotel's main entrance. (Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)

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# 'Seaport rate hike to help CPA bond requirements'

By KRISTI EATON  
kristi\_eaton@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The head of the Commonwealth Ports Authority yesterday said he is confident the agency can comply with requirements for its seaport revenue bond.

CPA executive director Efrain

F. Camacho met with Bank of Guam officials yesterday to discuss the bond, which has been on the verge of default.

In a July report to Gov. Benigno Fitial and the Legislature, acting CPA executive director Lee Cabrera said that CPA may have to increase rates at the Port

of Saipan because the seaport is not making enough revenue to meet bond requirements.

The seaport bond indenture agreement requires CPA to make timely payments and to maintain a 1.25 revenue-to-bond payment ratio at all times in the duration of the bond. This

means for every \$1 owed on the bond, CPA must have \$1.25 of net revenue in reserve.

During yesterday's weekly Rotary Club meeting, Camacho told members CPA was increasing the seaport fee 20 percent to \$7.20 per ton to help fund the bond. The in-

crease will help bring the bond into compliance, he said.

"Twenty percent is certainly a huge number, but when you look at dollar amount it's not that much," Camacho said.

A huge portion of CPA's \$33-million seaport bond was used to complete the \$43 mil-

lion Saipan Harbor Improvement Project.

Earlier this year Fitial declared CPA under a state of emergency for several months because the agency was on the verge of a technical default on its \$20-million airport bond indenture.

## Arts council reports good sale in Christmas exhibit

After nine days of the annual Christmas Exhibit, the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture reported yesterday that sales have been encouraging, citing reasonable prices and beautifully crafted items for the good turnout.

The exhibit and art sale are ongoing at the CCAC office on Capital Hill. Items such as

Prices range from \$3 to \$45 for several gift items that are appropriate for the holidays.

Paintings by local artists could be bought from \$25 to \$1,000.

Parker Yobei, Art Festival coordinator, said that around 28 artists brought in their works.

Also on display are the entries in the recent "Coke Side of Life" Poster and Can Decoration Contests.

Yobei is inviting the community to come and visit the exhibit, saying this is an opportunity to avail of local artists' works for low prices.

"We have good sales so far. Just last Monday, somebody went here and bought 10 Christmas cards designed by Larry Lee. They are worth \$25 each," Yobei said.

He said they want to attract more tourists, expressing grati-

tude to local dive guides who bring guests to the exhibit.

Two items, an oil painting on canvas by Rosemarie Diaz featuring orchids and titled *Island*

now based in Guam, left some of his works (oil painting), with a tag price of \$120 each.

Collector items also include coconut pieces with an affordable price of \$3 each. These traditional craft were made by Sixto Taimanao.

## DCCA CHILD CARE PROGRAM OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS (Saipan Only)

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be accepting new applications for Child Care and Development Fund (Child Care Program) for the island of Saipan starting from Monday, Dec. 15 until Friday, Dec. 26, 2008 between 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Mondays to Thursdays, and 8:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. Fridays.

Applications may be picked up at: DCCA Child Care Program Office Building No. 1347 Capital Hill Office nos. 664-2575 and 664-2573

### APPLICATION FORMS ARE LIMITED

#### Requirements:

Applicant of Household

1. Check stubs for the most recent two pay periods for each parent or guardian
2. A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian (Passport, CNMI driver's license, Mayor's ID Card or entry permit)
3. A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax (each parent or guardian)
4. Residency: The applicant or guardian must be living in the CNMI
  - Provide one of the following documents
  - a. House Rental/ Mortgage
  - b. Utility Receipt
  - c. Telephone Receipt
  - d. Entry Permit
  - 5. Employment verification
  - 6. Child support statement/stub
  - 7. Training/Education Verification and class schedules
  - 8. If single parent/guardian in a household provide notarized affidavit

#### Child/Children Household member:

1. A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA)
2. A copy of US Passport
3. A copy of Social Security Card

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# Student chosen for HR scholarship

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—The Hawaiian Healthcare Human Resources Association recently selected Juanet Sablan, a junior in the Hawaii Pacific University Human Resources degree program, as the annual recipient of the \$1,000 HHRA College Scholarship Program.

"My family and I are very grateful for HHRA's support and kind generosity," Sablan said. "Much of my hard work is for my family and for those who believe in me and have helped me along the way."

In addition to her studies, Sablan actively participates as a member of the HPU International Chorale, HPU Society for HR Management Lokahi Chapter.

ter (SHRM Lokahi), National Society for HR Management, and is the secretary for HPU Hafa Adai (Marianas) Club.

Sablan is originally from Saipan, and has chosen HR management as her career goal due to her family background.

"My mother and grandfather have been working in personnel management and HR management for a long time and are my biggest mentors," she said. "I chose to work in HR because I feel I can help groups of people overcome some of their everyday challenges, and the service itself is both challenging and fulfilling."

After graduating from HPU with a bachelor's degree in Hu-

man Resource Development, Sablan plans to work toward a master's degree in Human Resource Management.

"I hope to work in Hawaii for a while and then eventually return to Saipan to give back to my community," she said. "It is my hope to, one day, promote HR at the local college and even at the high school level."

**(HPU)**

## Senate OKs junking security deposit rule

The Senate has passed a bill removing the security deposit requirement for long-term business certificate applicants.

Members of the Upper House voted unanimously to abolish the requirement, which they called ineffective and unfair to the businesses.

Currently, foreign investors are required to put up a \$25,000 surety bond issued by a U.S. Treasury-listed bonding company.

Citing Department of Commerce reports, proponents of the bill say that approximately 80 percent of the total long-term business certificate holders now in the Commonwealth are exempted from any security deposit requirement.

Meanwhile, foreign investors

Hawaii Pacific University is the state's largest private university with more than 8,000 students from all 50 states and more than 100 countries. HPU is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the Council on Social Work Education, and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.

**(HPU)**

who are subject to the security deposit requirement cannot comply because U.S. Treasury-listed surety bonds are not available in the Commonwealth. Further, the bill's proponents say, none of the CNMI admitted U.S. Treasury listed bond companies are offering such type of security.

"The Legislature finds it is inequitable to require investors to comply with a provision of law that appears impossible with which to comply. For all these factors, such security deposit requirement must be eliminated," the bill states.

Sen. Jude Hofschneider sponsored the bill. The measure now heads to the House of Representatives for a vote. **(Agnes E. Donato)**

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**December 10, 1998**

### Gov't scrambles for cash

The amount covers three pay periods for the month of December, and the governor expressed optimism that funds would be available to avert a payless payday during the holiday season. "We're looking into other sources to raise revenues," Tenorio said, without giving details how his administration plans to raise funds, as he admitted that the commonwealth is in a tight situation in coming up with the money to pay government workers. "It's difficult for us because we have to spend \$18 million in one month and I hope it (payless pay day) would never happen," he added.

### Saddled with debts, investors flee

With the closure of almost 1,000 businesses on the island amid Asia's financial crisis, foreign investors fled the island leaving behind millions of dollars in unpaid land leases. In 1997, when the economic problems in the region began, landowners filed some 39 cases against foreign businessmen, mostly Koreans, for non-payment of leases. Twenty-four similar cases have been filed for this year. Unfortunately, most landowners were not successful in recovering payments since the foreign investors have filed bankruptcy. "The most that landowners usually get is the recovery of the title of their land."

**December 10, 1999**

### NMIRF chief wants retirement bonus axed

NMI Retirement Fund Administrator Juan S. Torres yesterday said he will ask Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to immediately sign a piece of legislation which seeks to eliminate the 30 percent retirement bonus in order to save the financial integrity of NMIRF. Due to the effects of Asia's financial crisis, the Fund's investment in the region's stock market, which is the secondary source of its annuity payments, has been greatly affected. Aside from this, Mr. Torres said the government can no longer afford to continue granting the benefit because of declining revenues.

### CUC welcomes probe on power project

Saying he welcomes any investigation into the controversial Saipan power project, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez yesterday lambasted what he called aggressive lobbying by one of the bidders in a bid to influence the Legislature. The embattled CUC director also dismissed fears that CNMI's credibility with outside investors is at stake if the utility firm decides to scrap the initial plan and scale back the proposed 80-megawatt plant. "We're open to any investigation. We have nothing to hide," he told reporters. "What amazes me is the amount of lobbying being done to try to sell a product and not looking at the ramifications associated with it."

**December 10, 2002**

### Rota in state of emergency

In a second—and more devastating—blow to Rota this year, super-typhoon Pongsoma unleashed its fury Sunday night on the island, with strong winds and heavy rains chopping down trees, wiping out crops, blowing away the roofs of many homes, and critically damaging the island's power plant. Acting Gov. Paul A. Manglona immediately declared a state of emergency on Rota and requested President Bush to declare the island a major disaster area so that assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal offices could be made available for rehabilitation. Damage to homes and businesses, infrastructure, schools and government facilities are estimated to reach \$5 million. At least six people on the island sustained minor injuries.

### Help pours for displaced families

Public School System bus drivers gave up their lunches and other food supplies to a displaced family in San Vicente Elementary School when a child complained of hunger pangs Saturday night. Besides the bus drivers, San Vicente school shelter manager Mary Brown, standby bus driver Diego Villagomez, and security guard Candido Borja immediately handed over their food and contacted other agencies to help the family, which consists of three young children and the couple. The family, who asked that their names be held confidential, arrived at the shelter Friday night when Typhoon Pongsoma started battering Saipan. The first help to arrive was from San Vicente School teacher Stacy Renwick, followed by the Kardat, Red Cross, and the Emergency Management Office.

## NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Council Members of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, through its Interim Chairman, is hereby giving a notice that a Meeting is to take place on Friday, December 12, 2008 at 9:30 AM at the Charley's room, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan. The Council also chooses to exercise its right to enter into Executive Session at any point during this meeting.

### AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
  - 1. Call to Order
  - 2. Roll Call
  - 3. Establish Quorum
- II. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- III. Review and Adoption of May 2, 2008 Meeting Minutes
- IV. Review and Adoption of August 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes
- V. Old Business
  - 1. Election of Officers
    - i. Chair
    - ii. Vice-Chair
    - iii. Treasurer
    - iv. Secretary
  - 2. Appointment of Committee Chairs
    - i. Council Membership Review Committee
    - ii. Finance Committee
    - iii. State Plan Committee
    - iv. Adhoc Human Resource Committee
    - v. Adhoc Bylaws, Policies, Procedures Committee
    - vi. Adhoc Call a Ride Guidelines and Procedures Committee
- VI. New Business
  - 1. 2009 DD Awareness Month
  - 2. FS 360 Mini Conference
  - 3. CNMI AT Grant Committee or Designation
- VII. Reports
  - 1. Interim Chairman
  - 2. Acting Executive Director
  - 3. Chairperson, Council Membership Review Committee
  - 4. Chairperson, Finance Committee
  - 5. Chairperson, State Plan Committee
- VIII. Next Meeting Schedule
- IX. Adjournment

In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodation are requested to call the Council 3 days in advance at 664-7003. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Derek Duenas, Interim Chairperson



## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950  
Phone: (1-670) 664-3500 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962  
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@saipan1.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.com

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### TINIAN FERRY PASSENGER FEE

THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY WILL DIRECTLY COLLECT THE \$2.25 PASSENGER FEE AT THE TINIAN SEAPORT FROM ALL NON DYNASTY GUESTS TRAVELING FROM TINIAN TO SAIPAN EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 15, 2008. BEFORE PURCHASING THE FERRY TICKET FROM THE TINIAN FERRY CASHIER, THE PASSENGER SHALL FIRST PAY THE PASSENGER FEE TO THE DESIGNATED CPA PERSONNEL. A RECEIPT SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE PASSENGER TO PRESENT TO THE TINIAN FERRY CASHIER. THE TINIAN FERRY CASHIER SHALL NOT SELL THE FERRY TICKET TO ANYONE WITHOUT A RECEIPT OF THE PASSENGER FEE PAYMENT.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PASSENGER FEE, CALL 433-9493.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.  
Executive Director

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP09-THC-001**

**SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 29, 2008** **TIME: 3:00 P.M.**  
**"MANPOWER SERVICES FOR TINIAN HEALTH CENTER"**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF SERVICES MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, SAN JOSE VILLAGE, TINIAN.

ANY QUESTION REGARDING THIS RFP SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO HENRY ENNEST U. HOFSCHEIDER, RHD-TINIAN HEALTH CENTER BY FAX TO (670) 433-9247 OR BY E-MAIL TO [thc\\_director@hotmail.com](mailto:thc_director@hotmail.com) NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 16, 2008, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSE P. SAN NICLAS  
MAYOR OF TINIAN & AGUIGUAN

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON  
DIRECTOR, P&S

**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 234-7144 or 235-7147  
Email: [administration@cda.gov.mp](mailto:administration@cda.gov.mp) • Website: [www.cda.gov.mp](http://www.cda.gov.mp)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

December 8, 2008

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WAKIN'S BUILDING, CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - 1. Roll Call
  - 2. Adoption of Agenda
  - 3. Adoption of Minutes
    - a. October 6, 2008
    - b. October 15, 2008
    - c. October 23, 2008
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. REPORTS
  - 1. Financial Report – CDA
  - 2. Legal Counsel's Report
- IV. DIVISIONS/COMMITTEES
  - 1. Development Corporation Division (DCD)
    - a. Loan Applications/Borrower's Request
    - b. Non-Interest Accrual Proposal
    - c. Foreclosed Properties Funding Requests
  - 2. DBD/Public Finance Committee
    - a. Status of the DBD Funds
  - 3. Administrative Matters/Personnel & Budget
    - a. Executive Director
  - 4. QC Program/Economic Development Activities
    - a. Compliance Issues
    - b. Proposed Legislation – Fairness in Investment Incentives Act of 2008
    - c. House Resolution 16-62, HD1
    - d. House Resolution No. 16-67
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - 1. Reorganization
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  - 1. SBDC's Funding Request (Department of Commerce)
- VII. OTHER MATTERS
  - 1. CDA's Presentation to the Legislature
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ PEDRO I. ITIBUS  
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

# Kilili to present goals, views in SHRM meeting

Delegate-elect Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan will be the featured speaker in Thursday's meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management-CNMI Chapter.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Chapter said that Sablan will be presenting his vision and

his views, goals and objectives, as he assumes his role as the CNMI's first elected non-voting delegate to the United States. A question-and-answer session with Sablan will also be available during the meeting.

The Chapter will also be holding elections for a new set



Sablan

of board of directors for 2009, during which the outgoing president will present an overview of the year's

program and wrap up the year's Chapter achievements.

The Chapter meeting will be held tomorrow, Dec. 11, 2008, at Raraina Restaurant of the Aqua Resort Club. Doors open at 11:15am for registration. Cost for members is \$15 and \$20 for non-SHRM members (government purchase orders accepted). Cost includes lunch.

Reservations are requested. Individuals interested in attending this meeting should contact Frannie T. Salas at e-mail [francesstsalas@gmail.com](mailto:francesstsalas@gmail.com), Polly Deleon Guerrero at e-mail [pollydlg@gmail.com](mailto:pollydlg@gmail.com) or Marlene C. Cruz at [marlene\\_c@marianashealth.com](mailto:marlene_c@marianashealth.com).

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human

resource management. The CNMI Chapter is composed of human resource professionals from a variety of industries, large and small, who recognize a need for a local society for professionals in the human resource field. The CNMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. (SHRM)

## Budget bill sets strict reporting rules

By AGNES E. DONATO  
[agnes\\_donato@saipantribune.com](mailto:agnes_donato@saipantribune.com)  
 REPORTER

Government agencies must comply with strict reporting requirements under the appropriation bill passed by the Legislature.

The proposed legislation requires government entities, including autonomous agencies, to submit quarterly reports to the Legislature on their spending for personnel and operations, as well as payments of the public auditor's fee.

The provision is designed to help the Legislature perform its oversight responsibility.

The public auditor's fee was included in the reporting requirement in the wake of some government agencies' failure to contribute, as required, 1 percent of their appropriation to the operating budget of the Office of the Public Auditor.

According to the Department of Finance, at least \$2 million of assessments against autonomous agencies have remained unpaid. Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos said a system of intercept or offset should be put in place to ensure the assessment against independent agencies are paid.

He also called "archaic and

unconventional" the procedure for assessing and accounting for the OPA fee that currently applies to the central government.

"A straightforward procedure would be to appropriate the 1-percent funding requirement for the OPA would be appropriated from general revenues, rather than appropriating the budgetary needs of the individual activities and then deducting 1 percent from those individual appropriations," Inos said.

He noted that the agencies do not get the 1 percent allowance in their budget to cover the OPA assessment.

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### I-Candy at Street Market

The CNMI's best dance crew, I-Candy, will be performing at the Garapan Street Market tomorrow, Dec. 11, 2008, at 7pm. The group will also be selling I-Candy t-shirts (\$12-\$18). (PR)

#### Kagman High calendar of activities

Dec.12: JROTC Man'amko Visit  
 Dec.16: PTSA at Kagman High School cafeteria. We will connect with Tanapag Elementary School library. Parents/guardians from the northern side of Saipan can come to Tanapag and participate in this meeting via teleconference/polycom from 6pm to 7pm.  
 Dec. 17: Parent Advisory Committee meeting  
 Dec. 18: Principals' meeting  
 Dec. 22: KHS accreditation team meets with BOE/COE  
 Dec. 23: Christmas 2008 bash at the school campus, 6pm-10pm.  
 Dec. 24 2008 to Jan.4 2009: Christmas break  
 Jan. 5 2009: Classes resume

#### NMHC board meeting today

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. board of directors will hold a special meeting today, Dec.10, 2008, at 10am at the NMHC conference room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance at 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, or 234-7670. (PR)

#### RP resets overseas absentee voters registration/certification

The Philippine Consulate General would like to inform all the Filipinos in the CNMI that as per Resolution No. 8556, the Philippine Commission on Elections has reset the registration/certification of overseas absentee voters from Dec.1, 2008 to Feb.1, 2009, ending on Aug. 31, 2009. All qualified Filipino voters are urged to register as overseas voters or to update their records (if they have previously voted in the Philippines) to enable them to vote during the 2010 Philippine presidential elections. (PR)

### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai  
 Saipan, MP 96950



#### INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW09-IFB-002

#### CONSTRUCTION OF SABANA ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, ROUTE II ROTA

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of Sabana Road and Drainage Improvements Route 11, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (ROTA).

The project package will be available on or after December 10, 2008 at Pacific Quick Print & Post, Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, amount to be determined, is required for each set. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (Ole) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project. All wages rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wages as required by the CNMI law & Federal Law.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on December 30, 2008, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Gualo Rai Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on January 20, 2009 to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, DPW 2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW09-IFB-002". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time January 23, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time January 23, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 23, 2009, and must be received no later than February 3, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, February 5, 2009. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on January 27, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660".

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Two hundred Forty (240) working days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the Standard Specification for Construction and Bridges on Federal Projects FP-96.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the FHWA.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSON  
 Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
 Director, Procurement & Supply

### Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

CTSI LOGISTICS,  
 CTSI Building, Lower Base,  
 P.O. Box 501937,  
 Saipan MP 96950  
 Website: [www.ctsi-logistics.com](http://www.ctsi-logistics.com)

Edgar T. Garcia  
 Inbound  
 Direct line (670) 236-2422

Jaime P. Salazar  
 Outbound  
 Direct line (670) 236-2410

Robert Reyes  
 Sales and Marketing  
 Direct line (670) 236-2402



## SHIPPING SCHEDULE

### MARIANA EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
STADT HAMBURG	026E	11/29 Sat	11/27 Thu	11/27 Thu	11/25 Tue	11/22 Sat	12/5 Fri	12/1 Mon	11/30 Sun	11/23 Sun	11/23 Sun	12/1 Mon	12/5 Fri	12/7 Sun	12/9 Tue
MELL SENOKO	014E	12/6 Sat	12/4 Thu	12/4 Thu	12/2 Tue	11/29 Sat	12/12 Fri	12/8 Mon	12/7 Sun	11/30 Sun	11/30 Sun	12/8 Mon	12/12 Fri	12/14 Sun	12/16 Tue
MELL SINGAPORE	019E	12/13 Sat	12/11 Thu	12/11 Thu	12/9 Tue	12/6 Sat	12/19 Fri	12/15 Mon	12/14 Sun	12/7 Sun	12/7 Sun	12/15 Mon	12/19 Fri	12/21 Sun	12/23 Tue
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Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA GenSan	ETA Davao	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore	
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MELL SINGAPORE	019E	12/27 Sat	12/28 Sun	12/28 Sun	SKIP	1/1 Thu	1/3 Sat	1/4 Sun	1/5 Mon	1/9 Fri	1/8 Thu	1/15 Thu	2/3 Tue	2/1 Sun	1/14 Wed
STADT HAMBURG	027E	1/3 Sat	1/4 Sun	1/4 Sun	1/6 Tue	1/8 Thu	1/10 Sat	1/11 Sun	1/13 Tue	1/16 Fri	1/17 Sat	1/22 Thu	2/10 Tue	2/8 Sun	1/21 Wed
MELL SENOKO	015E	1/10 Sat	1/11 Sun	1/11 Sun	SKIP	1/15 Thu	1/17 Sat	1/18 Sun	1/20 Tue	1/23 Fri	1/24 Sat	1/29 Thu	2/17 Tue	2/15 Sun	1/28 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	014E	1/17 Sat	1/18 Sun	1/18 Sun	1/20 Tue	1/22 Thu	1/24 Sat	1/25 Sun	1/27 Tue	1/30 Fri	1/31 Sat	2/5 Thu	2/24 Tue	2/22 Sun	2/4 Wed

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# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 338

Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### Start making sense

There is a certain unreal quality to current debate over the state of the U.S. economy, national security and the environment. As Detroit's Big Three automakers approach bankruptcy, dangerous oil-exporting states threaten international stability and climate change continues unchecked, Congress and the incoming Obama administration ponder costly and complex proposals to address these related crises. Under consideration are tens of billions of dollars in loans to the car companies; sanctions and diplomacy targeted at Iran, Russia and others; and a cap-and-trade system for carbon emissions. Each of these may have its place. What's striking, though, is that the only idea that seems to be off the table is the one that would address all three concerns directly and efficiently: higher gas taxes. This step would stimulate the market for new fuel-efficient cars; defund mischief-making petro-states; and cut carbon emissions. Not only that, it would reduce traffic, curb urban sprawl and, by giving drivers an incentive to drive more slowly, improve highway safety.

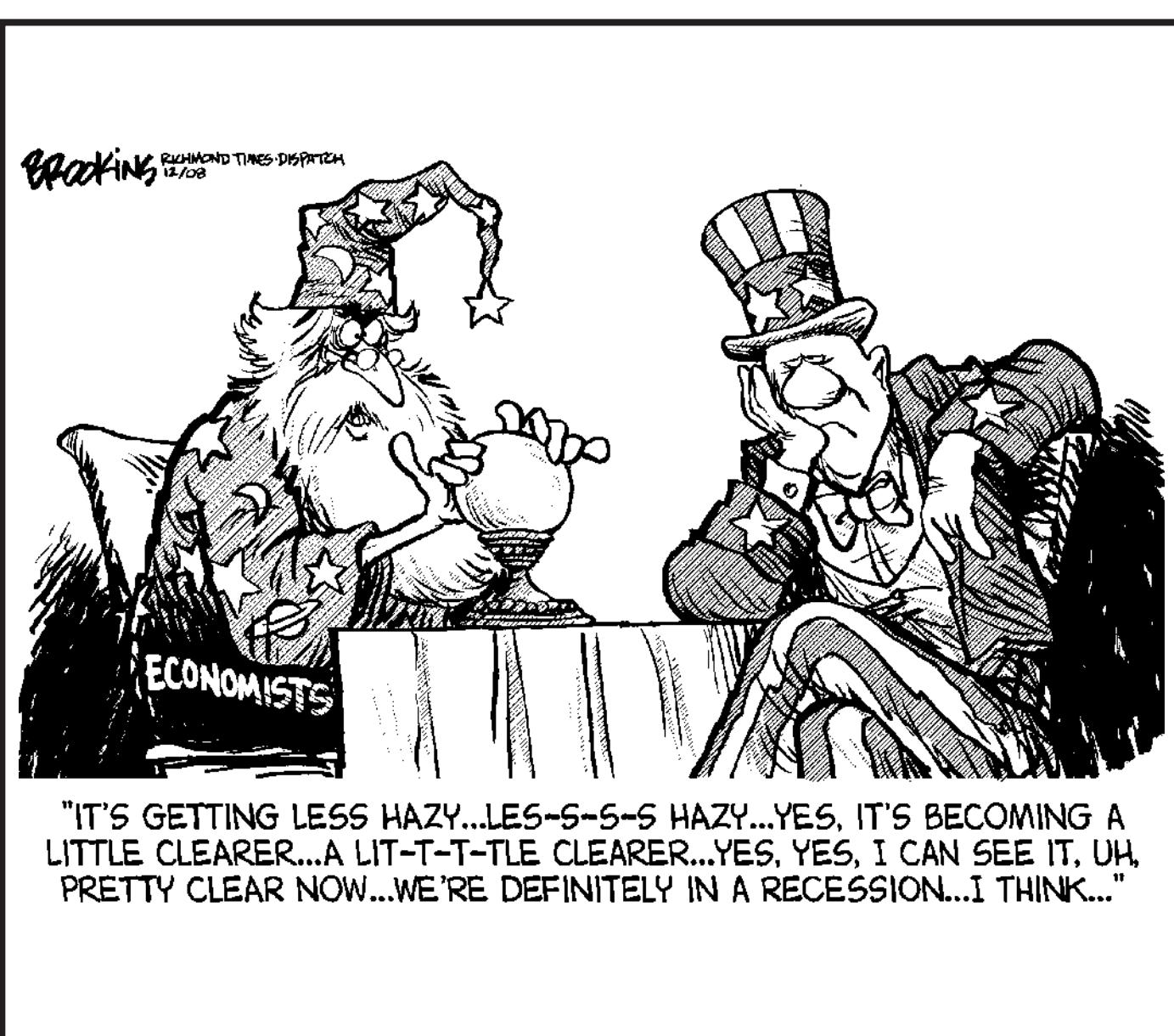
America's state of denial about fuel taxes is not new. But the time has come for it to end. The recent plunge in oil prices has created a golden opportunity. The price of a gallon of regular gasoline, which peaked at over \$4 last summer, is now about \$1.75. This means that today's drivers are enjoying the equivalent of 1980 prices, according to the Energy Information Administration. Meanwhile, the average per-gallon tax on gasoline is about 40 cents, including state levies. The federal portion of that has held steady at 18.4 cents since 1993; thus, in real terms, consumers have gotten a significant gas tax CUT over the past 15 years. This tax should have been indexed to inflation long ago.

Europe's motorists pay far higher gas taxes than American drivers do, a principal reason that its manufacturers (like Japan's) are practiced experts at profitably building fuel-efficient vehicles—and that the average fuel efficiency of new cars on European roads in 2006 was 38 miles per gallon. In contrast, newly enacted CAFE fuel-efficiency rules would require U.S. cars to get 35 miles per gallon by 2020. The Congressional Budget Office estimated in 2004 that raising the gas tax by 46 cents per gallon would cut fuel consumption more quickly and cheaply than CAFE.

Congress should enact a steep, inflation-indexed hike in gas taxes, one big enough to alter consumer incentives and habits permanently. This would take back some of the de facto economic stimulus consumers have received from the recent drop in gas prices, and it would be a hard sell politically. But surely voters can understand that, even if Congress were to triple the tax to 55.2 cents, gas would still be cheaper, in real terms, than it was in 2005. The increase could be rebated through the income tax system.

Whenever anyone mentions the gas tax, politicians are quick to warn their constituents about the costs; rarely do they mention the benefits. A higher gas tax would buy valuable public goods: national security; a cleaner environment; and safer, less congested streets. No matter what, Americans will have to pay for all of that. Why not do it the simple, straightforward way?

(c) 2008, The Washington Post



### There's no making war on terror

The Mumbai metropolitan area is home to an estimated 19 million people, but it took just 10 men to shut the city down.

Last week's terrorist attacks involved a handful of men armed only with guns, grenades and homemade bombs. They killed more than 170 people, closed universities and businesses, shut down India's National Stock Exchange and did incalculable economic damage to a country that boasts the world's third-largest military and internationally respected police and intelligence services—none of which managed to prevent the attacks.

Sound familiar?

It should. It should remind you of 9/11, when 19 men armed only with box cutters ultimately killed nearly 3,000 people. And the 2004 Madrid train bombings, which killed 191, and the 2005 bombings on London's Underground, which killed 52. Each of these attacks involved a small number of perpetrators. Each was low-tech. Each caused enormous psychological and economic damage in addition to loss of life, and each occurred in countries with sophisticated security forces.

Get used to it.

Because the Mumbai attack should also remind you of Timothy McVeigh and the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, which killed 168, and the 2002 D.C.-area sniper attacks, in which two men killed 10 people and caused so much fear that for weeks people were reluctant to go to shopping centers or gas stations, and the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings, in which one man killed 32 people.

The perpetrators of those attacks weren't Islamic extremists. McVeigh was a white supremacist; the D.C. snipers were a disgruntled black Army vet and his gullible teen sidekick; the Virginia Tech killer was a psychologically troubled Asian-American student. They had nothing in common except anger and a desire to cause death, pain and panic. And they succeeded.

We can't even stop school shootings by disturbed teenagers. Don't imagine we'll be much better at stopping ideologically motivated terrorists. As long as terrorists keep it low-tech and simple, they're hard to stop.

Wednesday, the congressionally appointed Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism asserted that "it is more than likely that a weapon of mass destruction"—most likely biological—"will be used in a terrorist attack somewhere in the world by the end of 2013." I take that warning seriously. But I also wonder: Why would a terrorist bother to manufacture a nuke or "weaponize" a virus—a complicated,

By ROSA BROOKS  
Special to the Los Angeles Times

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costly, risky and time-consuming process—when all he needs is a few determined people, some cheaply and easily obtained weapons or explosives, and boom? Even the most sophisticated society would be left paralyzed with fear.

If we let ourselves become that frightened.

Terrorism is nearly as old as humanity itself. In the first century A.D., the Zealots of Judea began a series of covert killings of Roman occupiers and Jewish collaborators. The word "assassin" is thought to derive from "Hashshashin," the name of a Shiite sect active during the Middle Ages whose members donned disguises to kill their victims in public places. The term "thug" is said to come from India—from the 17th to 19th centuries, a cult engaged in "thuggee," the mass strangulation of travelers in caravans. And like modern terrorists of every ideological stripe, these ancient Zealots, assassins and thugs succeeded in part by sowing outsize fear.

Mumbai should remind us again of the folly of the Bush administration's "war on terror." Terror is an emotion, and terrorism is a tactic. You can't make "war" against it. Even if meant as mere metaphor, "the war on terror" foolishly enhanced the terrorist's status as prime boogeyman, arguably increasing the psychological effectiveness of terrorist tactics. Worse, it effectively lumped together many different organizations motivated by many different grievances—a surefire route to strategic error.

Like crime, terrorism will always be with us, and terrorist attacks will increase as long as we succumb to the panic they're intended to inspire. But if we resist the temptation to lash out indiscriminately, we can take sober steps to reduce terrorism through improved intelligence, carefully targeted disruptions of specific terrorist organizations and efforts to address specific grievances (such as disputes over Kashmir). With a new U.S. administration about to take office, isn't it finally time to say goodbye to the "war on terror"? After all, we already have two real wars to worry about.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## A school where passion rules

*The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!*

*“While graduation rates in traditional high schools are reaching dismal lows of 5%, the percentage of kids graduating from a school like the Bronx Guild utilizing passion-centered learning are at 90% and above!”*

*(Inspired by and dedicated to the Bronx Guild)*

Imagine if you would a world where students yearn for class Inspired to achieve much more than just get by and pass

Their teachers get to know them and what makes it all worthwhile They learn about the world in ways that honor their true style

Imagine just how far they'll be the difference that they'll make When energy and interests guide the courses that they take

Their families' and teams' support hone character AND mind And yes they read and write well too They won't get left behind

And mentored by adults while they engage the world around They'll gain some real life smarts as they grow up and outward bound

Eventually they'll graduate with life's best skills and tools For learning's an adventure

in a school where passion rules!

A few months ago, an administrator at a unique new school in the Bronx, New York, called and told me an intriguing story:

Alex, a tenth-grader attending The Bronx Guild, was searching online for a music industry internship, as part of the Apprenticeship Program at his school. He found my [hiphopentrepreneur.com](http://hiphopentrepreneur.com) website, downloaded my bio, and submitted it to the program coordinator as a possible lead.

On the administrator's invitation, I visited this unique school and was blown away! I met Rhonda and Al, Alex's teachers, who introduced me to a curriculum that featured—in addition to the standard focus on math, science, social studies and English—Independent projects based on students' unique interests, and an apprenticeship program which gives them real-world experience in their field of choice.

During my short visit, I spoke to one student who was interning in the mayor's office, another whose passion for horses had her doing research comparing equine and human immunity, and saw others actively engaged on computers in a variety of passion-centered pursuits. On top of that—now get this—they end each day with 10 minutes of positive affirmations!

This was all new to me, and it was like seeing the type of school and educational environment I wished existed during my school years! Better still, being an advocate of the pursuit of one's passion as a life strategy, it was just the type of school I would start myself!

The most impressive thing I learned was that while graduation rates in traditional high schools are reaching dismal lows of 5 percent, the percentage of kids graduating from a school like the Bronx Guild, utilizing what I call passion-centered learning, are at 90 percent and above!

The Bronx Guild is one of the new menu of educational options available to families, and that are using experiential learning (learning by being and doing), and using the Big Picture philosophy\* and model to engage students. They've realized that different individuals respond to different learning environments, as described by an excerpt from their mission statement:

*“The development of Individualized Learning Plans for each student ensures that we are meeting the needs of all learners, that the curriculum is designed around how people learn, and that a student's engagement is based on his or her passion.”—Excerpt from Bronx Guild Mission Statement*

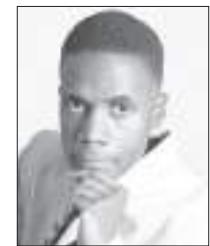
\*[And from the [bigpicture.org](http://bigpicture.org) website] “Big Picture Learning’s mission is to lead vital changes in education, both in the United States and internationally, by generating and sustaining innovative,

## THE SAIPANPRENEUR

### PROJECT *Creating economic success for the CNMI*

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

*Special to the Saipan Tribune*



*Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to [walt@passionprofit.com](mailto:walt@passionprofit.com).*

personalized schools that work in tandem with the real world of the greater community. We believe that in order to sustain successful schools where authentic and relevant learning takes place, we must continually innovate techniques and test learning tools to make our schools better and more rigorous. Lastly, we believe that in order to create and influence the schools of the future, we must use the lessons learned through our practice and research to give us added leverage to impact changes in public policy.”

Wow! Pretty soon, if this trend continues, we'll have a whole generation of passionpreneurs and a movement of passion-centered thinking and activity that can revolutionize our children's education, their futures, and make a world of difference.

And speaking of making a difference in an era of change:

The African American Cultural Preservation Committee is calling for entries for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Essay and Elocution Contest. The topic this year is “What Would Martin Say?” All students in the CNMI are invited. See the [www.blacksonsaipan.com](http://www.blacksonsaipan.com) website for details. Fliers are being distributed to the schools this week.

*Note: For more tips on overcoming your fears, acting on your ideas, changing the game, and creating a passion-centered lifestyle, visit [www.passionprofit.com](http://www.passionprofit.com)!*



Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!



*Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 12 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt's philosophy and formula visit [www.saipanpreneur.com](http://www.saipanpreneur.com) and [www.passionprofit.com](http://www.passionprofit.com).*

## Letters to the Editor

### ACT just don't get it

ACT's efforts to help the teachers who didn't pass PRAXIS is to be commended but what about the plight of all the teachers in the system—something that ACT seems to have forgotten about. ACT doesn't get it that they are addressing board policies at the back end after the policy has been created, when the CNMI Constitution intended for teachers to address board policies at the front end when the policy is created, which is why the Constitution called for a Teacher Rep with bargaining power. Why isn't ACT trying to find out the requirements for teachers to exercise their right to bargain? Why hasn't ACT asked the board to recognize ACT as the exclusive bargaining representative of teachers, especially since the governor is willing to recognize teachers and give us our rights as guaranteed by the CNMI and federal Constitution? ACT does not care if teachers get their rights and they are not trying to fulfill the Constitution.

The PRAXIS policy is only one blip of many on the screen that teachers want to address like permanent contracts and eliminating the non-renewal of contracts without cause and neither of these concerns will cost a dime. But ACT is focusing *only* on a matter that involves monetary compensation for teachers, which will surely be unfair to the teachers who have lived up to the expectations of the present policy. My salary has been frozen for

almost an entire decade and it is still the same as it was before I took and passed PRAXIS. I got one check for \$2,000 while other teachers will receive a continuous compensation in each paycheck for passing PRAXIS as long as they are teachers, which is totally unfair. But ACT is not fighting for me and the other handful of frozen teachers who have clearly been mistreated and we have the most experience and value to the system yet our contracts are subject to non-renewal without cause, we didn't get a permanent increase for passing PRAXIS, and we are not protesting. We need to help the teachers but which is right, paying teachers who couldn't pass the test or rewarding those who did? Which is best or most important, getting tests changed or making sure the qualified teachers remain in the system? I could go on but I think most people can see this is really common sense.

If ACT and their officers had worked with me when I was on the board like they are working now, there would be no need for all this back-tracking ACT is doing now. ACT is trying to apply a band-aid for PRAXIS when teachers figuratively need “surgery” at the board level to give them the bargaining power to influence and affect policies *before* they are implemented. I truly believe the president of ACT is taking teachers down the wrong

road away from their rights. To make it worse, the only teachers on the road with ACT are the ones who didn't pass PRAXIS—which speaks volumes of what is really happening.

The teachers at my school have already organized and are waiting for the board to tell us what their expectations are to be recognized as the “exclusive bargaining representative of teachers,” which will give teachers the right to bargain on all policies affecting teachers, including PRAXIS. The governor has told and even requested that teachers fulfill the CNMI Constitution by creating “an exclusive bargaining representative of teachers to be recognized by the Board and for this group of teachers to elect a Teacher Rep.” Teachers at my school are only waiting for the board to clarify or define the conditions for teachers to be recognized, as required by the Constitution. Once the board issues this requirement, all teachers at all schools need to do all they can to help teachers be recognized by the board for representation. ACT can continue down the road of controversy and small talk but teachers need to pursue their bargaining rights—end of story!

**Ambrose M. Bennett**  
Kagman, Saipan

### Elected attorney general

With our now growing and diverse population, the need to elect our attorney general is more than ever a justified proposal. We need to give our community the confidence that we can prosecute wrongdoers regardless of their positions and family ties. Turning a blind eye toward certain unlawful and improper conduct of certain individuals because of political and family ties

should have no place in our island community. We also need not fear any abuse of power by our elected AG. There will be a check; the individual elected will be politically accountable to protect us and her/his prosecutorial zeal will not be without a scrutiny. I supported a proposal to elect our AG as a member of the 1985 Second Constitutional Convention; I

continue to do so, and now more strongly than ever. We have several dynamic lawyers who are qualified for the position of attorney general.

**Juan T. Lizama**  
Papago, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph in the morning becoming light.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▾77°

▲85° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84 ▾76
Palau	Sunny	▲90 ▾77
Yap	Showers	▲88 ▾76
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲90 ▾80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85 ▾76
Kosrae	Showers	▲90 ▾77
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▾75

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲71 ▾58
Beijing	Cloudy	▲36 ▾16
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲72 ▾63
Honolulu	Showers	▲80 ▾72
London	Partly Sunny	▲39 ▾30
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲83 ▾50
Manila	Showers	▲87 ▾75
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲69 ▾53
Miami	Showers	▲83 ▾70
New York	Rain	▲59 ▾32
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲60 ▾46
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲40 ▾30
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲59 ▾43
Rome	Rain	▲55 ▾52
Salem	Cloudy	▲47 ▾36
San Francisco	Sunny	▲62 ▾45
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲50 ▾34
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲60 ▾45
Washington, DC	Rain	▲64 ▾34

### Tides

Saipan Harbor	
6:09AM Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
11:08AM Today	Low Tide: 1.1 Feet
4:37PM Today	High Tide: 2.1 Feet

### Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset		Moonrise/Moonset	
Today	6:32AM	5:47 PM	Today
Thursday	6:33AM	5:48 PM	Thursday
Friday	6:33AM	5:48 PM	Friday
Saturday	6:34AM	5:48 PM	Saturday
Sunday	6:35AM	5:49 PM	Sunday

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

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Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

#### SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

#### TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Sunday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$182. Off-island subscription rate is \$376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 2008

### DEPARTURES

#### Saipan-Rota

CO9597 11:50am 12:25pm 1,7

#### Saipan-Guam

CO9317 5:00am 5:50am Daily

CO9313 8:30am 9:20am Daily

CO9597 11:50am 1:20pm 1,7 via Rota

CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm 2,3,4,5,6

CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily

CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily

CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily

### ARRIVALS

#### Rota-Saipan

CO 9598 3:25am 4:00am 5,6

#### Guam-Saipan

CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am 1,2,3,4,7

CO 9598 2:30am 4:00am 5,6 via Rota

CO 9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily

CO 9600 10:20am 11:10am Daily

CO 9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily

CO 9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily

CO 9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily

#### Narita-Saipan

NW 099 5:00am 7:40am Daily

NW 078 8:25am 1:30pm 2,3,4,5,6,7

NW 075 4:55pm 7:30pm Daily

#### Saipan-Osaka

NW 083 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily

#### Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078 8:25am 11:05am Daily

NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily

#### Saipan-Incheon

OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am 1

OZ 603 2:40am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7

OZ 606 3:20pm 7:00pm Daily

OZ 605 9:00am 2:20pm Daily

OZ 603 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7

OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6

OZ 607 9:30pm 2:40am+1 3,4,6,7

#### Saipan-Busan</h

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& Dip Tray  
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# Business

## Congress sends White House auto aid plan with czar

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional Democrats and the White House worked to resolve their last disputes Monday over terms of a \$15 billion bailout for U.S. auto makers—complete with a “car czar” to oversee the industry’s reinvention of itself—that’s expected to come to a vote as early as Wednesday.

Top Democrats gave the White House their proposal for rushing short-term loans to Detroit’s Big Three through a plan that requires that the industry remake itself in order to survive. The Bush administration gave a cool initial response, saying the measure didn’t do enough to ensure that only viable companies would get longer-term federal help. Negotiators worked into the night Monday to resolve differences.

“We’ve made a lot of progress in recent days to develop legislation to help automakers restructure and achieve long-



AP House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, with House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank, D-Mass., at right, talks about a possible bailout of American automakers during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008.

### Top former Fannie, Freddie executives to testify

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lawmakers are poised to trade barbs Tuesday about who deserves most of the blame for the collapse and government takeover of mortgage finance titans Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

The two companies, which were seized by federal regulators in September, have become highly charged political targets in the debate over what caused the U.S. housing crisis and the resulting financial fallout.

### Asian markets mixed as caution tempers hope

TOKYO (AP)—Asian markets flitted in and out of positive territory Tuesday, buoyed by hopes for stimulus measures by the world’s biggest economies but unable to shake off pervasive concerns about the global outlook.

Japan’s benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average climbed 39.45 points, or 0.5 percent, to 8,368.50, while Hong Kong’s Hang Seng index fell 0.8 percent to 14,919.20.

Key indices in New Zealand,

Four former top executives are scheduled to be grilled at the hearing, which is being led by Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. But there are doubts about whether the hearing will produce any solid conclusions or will just devolve into partisan bickering.

“I think we’re going to get a lot of finger-pointing, which will be totally unproductive,” said Bert Ely, a banking industry

consultant in Alexandria, Va.

Fannie and Freddie, which own or guarantee around half the \$11.5 trillion in U.S. outstanding home loan debt, long used their lobbying muscle in Washington to thwart efforts to impose tighter regulation.

Washington-based Fannie and Freddie are the engines behind a complex process of buying, bundling and selling mortgages as investments.

Taiwan, Singapore and the Philippines joined Tokyo’s advance. But markets in mainland China, South Korea and Australia turned lower.

Investors are trying to be optimistic about the various measures that have been announced in China and the U.S., said Song Seng Wun, head of research at CIMB Securities in Singapore.

“The markets are taking a view that the depression scenario can be avoided and a recession can be cushioned,” Song

said. “But we may not be able to say this is a turning point yet.”

Overnight on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials rose nearly 3 percent to 8,934.18, their highest level in a month following President-elect Barack Obama’s promise to increase infrastructure spending to lift the economy. His plan calls for the largest U.S. public works program since the creation of the interstate highway system a half-century ago.

term viability,” Dana Perino, the White House press secretary, said in a statement. “We’ll continue to work with members on both sides of the aisle to achieve legislation that protects the good faith investment by taxpayers.”

President George W. Bush himself said it was “hard to tell” if a deal was imminent because definite conditions had to be met. “These are important companies, but on the other hand, we just don’t want to put good money after bad,” he said in an interview with ABC’s “Nightline.”

Despite optimism on both sides that Congress and the White House could reach a swift agreement on the measure, it was still a tough sell on Capitol Hill.

“While we take no satisfaction in loaning taxpayer money to these companies, we know it must be done,” said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. “This is no blank check or blind hope.”

### Tribune Co. files for bankruptcy

NEW YORK (AP)—Tribune Co.—owner of the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, Baltimore Sun and other dailies—filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy Monday, the first major newspaper publisher to take such a step since the Internet plunged the industry into a desperate struggle for survival.

The media conglomerate was smothered by a drop-off in advertising and a crushing \$13 billion in debt from the company’s takeover a year ago by Chicago real estate mogul Sam Zell.

Chapter 11 would buy the Tribune Co. time to put its finances in order. Analysts said the company will almost certainly have to sell off some of its major holdings—and that could prove extremely difficult because of the bad economy and the poor outlook for newspapers.

“When you look at the near term, prospects for the company and the industry

are certainly not very bright,” said Dave Novosel, an analyst with the Gimme Credit research firm.

Tribune Co. employees, who received an ownership stake in the company when Zell came in, could also see the value of their holdings wiped out.

Tribune Co., which has 20,000 employees, owns baseball’s Chicago Cubs as well as 10 daily newspapers, including The Hartford (Conn.) Courant and the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel, cable channels and 23 TV stations. Its papers’ total circulation of more than 2 million puts the Tribune Co. among the top three most-read newspaper groups nationwide.

Other newspaper companies have also struggled with heavy debt, a downturn in advertising and the loss of readers to the Internet, but the Tribune Co. was something of a special case.

## STOCK Portfolio

### ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA  
3,533.70  
Down 20.10  
(-0.57%)

HONG KONG  
14,730.45  
Down 314.42  
(-2.09 %)

TOKYO  
8,395.87  
Up 66.82  
(0.80%)

MANILA  
1,935.07  
Up 26.39  
(1.38%)

SEOUL  
1,105.84  
Up 0.79  
(0.07%)

BANGKOK  
414.06  
Up 3.48  
(0.85%)

K. LUMPUR  
847.83  
Up 9.55  
(1.14%)

SINGAPORE  
1,741.03  
Up 81.86  
(4.93%)

DOW  
8,934.18  
298.76

NASDAQ  
1,571.74  
62.43

S&P  
909.70  
0.00

### MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar 1.5265

British Pound 0.6754

Canadian Dollar 1.2469

Chinese Renminbi 1.2526

Euro 0.7777

Hong Kong Dollar 7.7506

Indian Rupee 49.5700

Indonesian Rupiah 10,920.0000

Japanese Yen 92.6400

Malaysian Ringgit 3.6235

New Zealand Dollar 1.8587

Philippine Peso 48,4300

Singapore Dollar 1.5077

South Korean Won 1,446,5000

Swiss Franc 1.2106

Taiwan Dollar 33,5130

Thailand Baht 35,4350

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Anheuser-Busch InBev to cut 1,400 US jobs

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP)—Anheuser-Busch InBev announced Monday it would cut some 1,400 U.S. jobs—or another 6 percent of its U.S. work force—to help save the world’s largest brewer at least \$1.5 billion a year. It said three-quarters of the jobs to disappear will go from Anheuser’s North American headquarters in St. Louis, both at downtown offices and its Sunset Hills campus. The job cuts go beyond plans Anheuser-Busch announced this summer to streamline costs, before it agreed

to be taken over by Belgium-based InBev. The company said the job losses will help it save at least \$1.5 billion a year by 2011 and cope with a “challenging economy.” Most of the cuts will be made by the end of the year. Anheuser-Busch provides half of America’s beer but it has not managed to expand around the world as fast as InBev—a Belgian-Brazilian hybrid that owns hundreds of local brands but few real stars.

#### Dow Chemical to slash 5,000 jobs, shut 20 plants

NEW YORK (AP)—Dow

Chemical Co. said Monday it will slash 5,000 full-time jobs—about 11 percent of its total work force—close 20 plants and sell several businesses to rein in costs amid the economic recession. The company, one of the largest chemical makers in the world, expects the plan to save about \$700 million per year by 2010. Dow also will temporarily idle 180 plants and prune 6,000 contractors from its payroll. Exactly which workers and plants will be affected is still being determined, a company spokesman said. “We are accelerating the implementation of these measures as the current world economy has deteriorated sharply, and we must adjust ourselves to the severity of this downturn,” Chief Executive and Chairman Andrew N. Liveris said in a statement.

#### Morgan Stanley, Merrill chiefs give up bonuses

NEW YORK (AP)—The chief executives of Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch & Co. are going without bonuses for a year that has seen Wall Street ravaged by staggering losses, mass layoffs and the collapse of storied firms. Morgan Stanley’s CEO John J. Mack is giving up a bonus for the second straight

year, while Merrill Lynch & Co. said its CEO John Thain also asked to go without the extra compensation for 2008 after reports surfaced he had sought as much as \$10 million. Mack told employees Monday in a memo obtained by The Associated Press that he and the firm’s two presidents, James Gorman and Walid Chammah, informed the board’s compensation committee of their decision to forgo 2008 bonuses, and the committee accepted. Mack—who did not receive a bonus for 2007, either—said the company is changing year-end compensation for other employees, too.

# Nation

## Military jet crash in San Diego kills 3 on ground

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—A fighter jet returning to a Marine base after a training exercise crashed in flames in a San Diego neighborhood Monday, killing three people on the ground, leaving one missing and destroying two homes.

The pilot of the F/A-18D Hornet jet ejected safely just before the crash around noon at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Explosions rocked a neighborhood of half-million-dollar homes, sending flames and plumes of smoke skyward.

“The house shook; the ground shook. It was like I was frozen in my place,” said Steve Krasner, who lives a few blocks from the crash. “It was bigger than any earthquake I ever felt.”

Three people were killed in a house where two children, a mother and a grandmother were believed to be at the time of the crash, but fire officials did not immediately know who died. Another person remained missing, and officials said the search was suspended until Tuesday morning.

“We just know that four people were inside, and three of them have been accounted for,” Fire Department spokesman Maurice Luque said.

The pilot, who ended up hanging by his parachute from a tree in a canyon beneath the neighborhood, was in stable condition at a naval hospital in San Diego, said Miramar spokes-



AP Firefighters continue to douse the wreckage of a F-18 fighter jet and the homes it crashed into Monday Dec. 8, 2008 in San Diego.

woman 1st Lt. Kathryn Putnam. The pilot was returning from training on the carrier USS *Abraham Lincoln* off the San Diego coast when the plane went down, she said.

Putnam had no details on a possible

cause. Investigators will review information from a flight data recorder, and there was no indication the pilot was using alcohol or drugs, she said.

The Navy recently inspected hundreds of F/A-18 Hornets built by

Boeing Co. after discovering “fatigue cracks” on more than a dozen aircraft. The Navy announced last month it had grounded 10 of the jets and placed flight restrictions on another 20 until repairs could be made.

## Judge: Blackwater guards must report to DC court

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Wild, unprovoked gunfire and grenades killed 14 innocent Iraqis and hurt dozens more in a 2007 Baghdad attack, prosecutors said Monday in announcing charges with mandatory 30-year prison terms against five Blackwater Worldwide security guards. The Justice Department called the shooting a shocking and devastating violation of human rights. The harsh words echoed the outrage of Iraqis, who have waited more than a year to see how the U.S. would respond to the shooting on a busy street in the Iraqi capital.

The shooting by the largest U.S. security contractor in Iraq sparked international condemnation, launched congressional hearings and inspired

### Court: No review of Obama's eligibility to serve

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Supreme Court has turned down an emergency appeal from a New Jersey man who says President-elect Barack Obama is ineligible to be president because he was a British subject at birth. The court did not comment on its order Monday rejecting the call by Leo Donofrio of East Brunswick, N.J., to intervene in the presidential election.

Donofrio says that since Obama had dual nationality at birth—his mother was American and his Kenyan father at the time was a British subject—he cannot possibly be a “natural born citizen,” one of the requirements the Constitution lists for eligibility to be president.

Donofrio also contends that two other candidates, Republican John McCain and Socialist Workers candidate Roger Calero, also are not natural-born citizens and thus ineligible to be president.

At least one other appeal over Obama’s citizenship remains at the

anti-American insurgent propaganda.

The five security guards—all decorated military veterans—surrendered in federal court in Utah, where one of them lives. The five guards walked wordlessly through a phalanx of reporters. A judge ordered the guards to report to a Washington courthouse Jan. 6, where they were expected to plead not guilty.

A sixth Blackwater guard struck a deal with prosecutors, turned on his former colleagues, and pleaded guilty to killing one Iraqi and wounding another.

“None of the victims of this shooting was armed. None of them was an insurgent,” U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Taylor said at a Justice Department

news conference in Washington to announce the charges.

Prosecutors said the slain included young children, women, people fleeing in cars and a man whose arms were raised in surrender as he was shot in the chest.

Twenty others were wounded in crowded Nisoor Square, including one injured by a grenade launched into a nearby girls’ school. Another 18 Iraqis were assaulted but not wounded, prosecutors said.

Blackwater, which was not charged in the case, maintains its guards were protecting themselves from what they believed was an imminent car bomb attack.

“We think it’s pure and simple a case of self-defense,” defense attorney Paul Cassell said Monday as the guards were being booked. “Tragically, people did die.” In all, 17 Iraqis were killed in the assault. But Assistant Attorney General Patrick Rowan said evidence in the case could only prove the guards shot 14, although he left open the possibility of future charges.

The five guards were charged with 14 counts of manslaughter, 20 counts of attempted manslaughter and one count of using a machine gun to commit a crime of violence. The machine gun charge, typically used in drug cases, carries a 30-year minimum prison sentence.

### Scientists find nutty risk reducer: Eat more nuts

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Here’s a health tip in a nutshell: Eating a handful of nuts a day for a year—along with a Mediterranean diet rich in fruit, vegetables and fish—may help undo a collection of risk factors for heart disease. Spanish researchers found that adding nuts worked better than boosting the olive oil in a typical Mediterranean diet. Both regimens cut the heart risks known as metabolic syndrome in more people than a low-fat diet did.

“What’s most surprising is they found substantial metabolic benefits in the absence of calorie reduction or weight loss,” said Dr. JoAnn Manson, chief of preventive medicine at Harvard’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

In the study, appearing Monday in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, the people who improved most were told to eat about three whole walnuts, seven or eight whole hazelnuts and seven or eight whole almonds. They didn’t lose weight, on average, but

more of them succeeded in reducing belly fat and improving their cholesterol and blood pressure.

Manson, who wasn’t involved in the study, cautioned that adding nuts to a Western diet—one packed with too many calories and junk food—could lead to weight gain and more health risks. “But using nuts to replace a snack of chips or crackers is a very favorable change to make in your diet,” Manson said. The American Heart Association says 50 million Americans have metabolic syndrome, a combination of health risks, such as high blood pressure and abdominal obesity. Finding a way to reverse it with a diet people find easy and satisfying would mean huge health improvements for many Americans, Manson said.

Nuts help people feel full while also increasing the body’s ability to burn fat, said lead author Dr. Jordi Salas-Salvado of the University of Rovira i Virgili in Reus, Spain.

### Suspicious letters sent to at least 6 governors

**MONTGOMERY**, Ala. (AP)—Suspicious letters containing powdery substances addressed to governors were intercepted in at least six states on Monday, but no injuries were immediately reported. The letters were reported in Alabama, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana and Rhode Island. They disrupted state governments in a few of the states, forcing some evacuations and testing for workers who might have been exposed. Preliminary tests found the powders sent to Alabama, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana and Rhode Island were not harmful. The Missouri letter never made it to state offices. Alabama officials said the FBI was working with police agencies in each state to investigate the letters. An FBI spokeswoman in Washington referred questions about the investigation to the bureau’s offices in each state. Alabama’s public safety director, Christopher Murphy, said “my gut is there may be more” letters still moving through the mail system.

### Calling in ‘gay’ to work is latest form of protest

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Some same-sex marriage supporters are urging people to “call in gay” Wednesday to show how much the country relies on gays and lesbians, but others question whether it’s wise to encourage skipping work given the nation’s economic distress. Organizers of “Day Without a Gay”—scheduled to coincide with International Human Rights Day and modeled after similar work stoppages by Latino immigrants—also are encouraging people to perform volunteer work and refrain from spending money. Sean Hetherington, a West Hollywood comedian and personal trainer, dreamed up the idea with his boyfriend, Aaron Hartzler, after reading online that a few angry gay-rights activists were calling for a daylong strike to protest California voters’ passage last month of Proposition 8, which reversed this year’s state Supreme Court decision allowing gay marriage. The couple thought it would be more effective and less divisive if people were asked to perform community service instead of staying home with their wallets shut. Dozens of nonprofit agencies, from the National Women’s Law Center in Washington to a Methodist church in Fresno collecting food for the homeless, have posted opportunities for volunteers on the couple’s Web site.

### 3 NYC officers to surrender in subway sodomy case

**NEW YORK** (AP)—After weeks of conflicting accounts about a shocking claim of police brutality in a subway station, three patrolmen were notified Monday they will face criminal charges in the case. Officers Richard Kern, Alex Cruz and Andrew Morales were indicted last week by a grand jury investigating allegations by a tattoo parlor worker that police sodomized him with a piece of police equipment during an arrest, according to a law enforcement official. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the indictment was sealed, declined to detail the charges. Lawyers for Kern and Cruz said they were told their clients should surrender Tuesday for arraignment on unspecified charges. Calls to an attorney for Morales went unanswered. The district attorney’s office refused to comment Monday but was expected to officially announce the charges Tuesday. Kern, who was implicated by another officer as the main assailant, has denied any wrongdoing. “We don’t know what the people’s proof is, but as far as I’m concerned my client is not guilty,” said Kern’s attorney, John Patten.

# Asia

## Pakistan arrests suspected Mumbai attack plotter

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Troops raided a militant camp and arrested a suspected mastermind of the Mumbai attacks, Pakistan's first reported response to U.S. and Indian demands for action against alleged plotters on its soil, officials said Monday.

The arrest in Pakistani Kashmir of Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi could signal the beginning of a wider crackdown aimed at reducing tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors and satisfying Washington.

Lakhvi is allegedly a member of Lashkar-e-Taiba, a banned group blamed for other attacks on its soil. Analysts say it was created in the 1980s by Pakistan's intelligence agencies to act as a proxy fighting force in Indian Kashmir.

Many analysts suspect elements within Pakistan's intelligence agencies keep some links with Lashkar and other militants, either to use against India or in neighboring Afghanistan, but U.S. counterterrorism officials say there is no evidence linking Pakistan state agencies to the Mumbai attacks.

The United States says Lashkar is linked to al-Qaida. In May, the U.S. blocked the assets of Lakhvi and three other alleged members of the group, including its leader, Hafiz Mohammed Saeed.

Indian officials in New Delhi and Islamabad were not available for comment.

State Department spokesman Sean McCormack did not



In this file photo dated June 28, 2008, Pakistani Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi speaks during a rally at Muzaffarabad, in Pakistani controlled Kashmir, Pakistan, Saturday, June 28, 2008.

confirm Lakhvi's arrest, but said the reported raid was a "positive step."

India says the 10 gunmen who killed 171 people in the country's financial hub on Nov. 26-29 were Pakistani members of Lashkar-e-Taiba. Washington said Sunday the attack was

planned in Pakistan.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since 1947, but their ties had been improving in recent years. U.S. officials fear a serious disruption would dent its hopes for regional stability needed to better fight al-Qaida along the Afghan border.

## Taliban vows violent response to US troop increase

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Taliban's fugitive leader said the planned increase in U.S. troops in Afghanistan will give his fighters incentive to kill and maim more Americans than ever.

Mullah Omar, who is believed to be sheltered by fiercely conservative tribesmen on the Afghan-Pakistan border, said battles would "flare up" everywhere.

"The current armed clashes, which now number into tens, will spiral up to hundred of armed clashes. Your current casualties of hundreds will jack up to thousand casualties of dead

and injured," said the statement, which was written in broken English and posted on a Web site Sunday that has previously carried militant messages.

Violence in Afghanistan has spiked in the last two years, and 2008 has been the deadliest year for U.S. troops since the 2001 invasion to oust the Taliban for hosting al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden.

There are more than 60,000 foreign troops in Afghanistan, including 32,000 U.S. forces. Though U.S. troop levels are already at their highest since the start of the conflict in 2001,

American commanders have requested 20,000 more troops to stem the increase in violence that has engulfed parts of the country.

Former Republican presidential candidate John McCain warned on Sunday during a visit to Afghanistan that the situation "is going to get harder before it gets easier."

The rising violence in Afghanistan appears to be coordinated closely with the spike in militant attacks in neighboring Pakistan, and officials increasingly view both countries as part of the same battlefield.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Dalai Lama says oppression continues in Tibet

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—The Dalai Lama says conditions in Tibet have "not improved at all" since the Olympics Games in Beijing. The Tibetan spiritual leader says that since demonstrations earlier this year against Beijing's rule in Tibet "the Chinese government carried (out) immense sort of suppression." He says "some arrests still continue." The demonstrations against Chinese rule in March exploded into violence in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa. China then launched a massive crackdown in which Tibetan exile groups say at least 140 people died and more than 1,000 people have been detained. The Dalai Lama was speaking Monday in the Polish city of Krakow, where he received the Honoris Causa doctorate from Jagiellonian University.

#### Japan: Chinese ships intruded in disputed waters

TOKYO (AP)—Two Chinese survey ships intruded on Japanese waters surrounding disputed islands in the East China Sea on Monday but retreated several hours after Tokyo protested to Beijing, Japanese officials said. The Japanese coast guard said it was not clear what the Chinese ships did for about nine hours in the waters near the Japan-held islands, which are known as the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China. The islands are also claimed by China and Taiwan. Tokyo immediately lodged a protest with Beijing over the intrusion. "Historically and internationally, the Senkaku islands are part of Japan. (The entry) was extremely regrettable," government spokesman Takeo Kawamura said at a news conference. China responded to Tokyo's protest by saying it was checking facts.

# World

## Confessions throw Gitmo 9/11 trials into confusion

### GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba

(AP)—Khalid Sheikh Mohammed said Monday he will confess to masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks, throwing his death-penalty trial into disarray and shocking victims' relatives who watched from behind a glass partition. Four other men also abandoned their defenses, in effect daring the Pentagon to grant their wish for martyrdom. The judge ordered lawyers to advise him by Jan. 4 whether the Pentagon can apply the death penalty without a jury trial.

"When they admitted their guilt, my reaction was, 'Yes!' My inclination was to jump up and say 'Yay!' But I managed to maintain my decorum," said Maureen Santora, of Long Island City, N.Y., whose firefighter son Christopher died responding to the World Trade Center attacks.

Santora was one of nine victims' relatives watching the proceedings, the first time relatives of the 2,975 people killed in the attacks

have been allowed to observe the war-crimes trials. She watched from the back of the court-room, wearing black and clutching a photo of her son in uniform.

In an about-face that appeared to take the court by complete surprise, the five men announced they were abandoning their attempts to mount a vigorous defense and instead requested "an immediate hearing session to announce our confessions."

However, that didn't mean they had repented.

"I reaffirm my allegiance to Osama bin Laden," Ramzi Binalshibh blurted out in Arabic at the end of the hearing. "I hope the jihad continues and I hope it hits the heart of America with weapons of mass destruction."

The formal confessions were delayed, however, when the judge said two of the defendants couldn't enter pleas until the court determines their mental competency. The other three said they would wait as well.

## Nanny moves to Israel with boy orphaned in Mumbai

### MIGDAL HA-EMEK, Israel

(AP)—After hiding for hours in the besieged Jewish center in Mumbai, Sandra Samuel suddenly heard a cry that made her forget all fear for her own safety: 2-year-old Moshe was calling his nanny's name.

Ignoring crackling gunfire and exploding grenades, she says she charged up the stairs and found the toddler crying by his mother's body, his pants soaked in blood. She grabbed the child and ran with him to safety. Today, the 44-year-old Indian woman, a Christian, is the Orthodox Jewish toddler's only remaining link to the life he once knew. Moshe Holtzberg's Israeli parents died in the assault. Samuel, a recent widow, has left her own two sons and her homeland to move with the child to Israel, where she says she will stay "as long as my baby needs me."

On Monday, Moshe cheered EU ships to arrive early for Somali piracy mission

### BRUSSELS, Belgium

(AP)—A European Union flotilla is deploying five days early to waters off the Horn of Africa, determined to combat piracy amid growing alarm over attacks on international shipping.

On Dec. 15, four EU warships and two maritime reconnaissance aircraft will replace the four-ship NATO flotilla that has been conducting anti-piracy patrols off the Somali coast, EU foreign ministers announced Monday during their monthly meeting.

## Tarmac protest in UK raises airport questions

LONDON (AP)—Environmental protesters cut through the perimeter fence at Britain's third-largest airport Monday and occupied the tarmac, forcing the cancellation of more than 50 flights and raising questions over the vulnerability of airports.

Two waves of protesters arrived at Stansted Airport before dawn. The first group used an old fire truck to provide cover as they sliced through the perimeter fence with bolt cutters. A second group ran through



AP  
Indian nanny Sandra Samuel kisses Moshe Holtzberg, 2, orphan of Rabbi Gavriel Noach Holtzberg and his wife Rivkah, killed in the Mumbai Jewish center attack, in the garden of his relative's house in Migdal Ha-Emek, northern Israel, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008.

fully touched and identified in English the animal statues that rimmed the garden of his great-uncle's home, where he and Samuel are staying in this small northern Israeli town.

He sought out Samuel repeatedly, though, smiling as he nestled in her arms.

There was no sign of the inconsolable orphan whose plight captivated millions, his anguished cries of "Eema, Eema!"—"Mommy! Mommy!"—shown worldwide in broadcasts of his parents' memorial service last week.

EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana called it "a very important mission ... in a place in the world that everybody's looking at because of the problems related to piracy."

The EU has conducted 20 peacekeeping operations so far, but this is its first naval endeavor. The task force—codenamed Operation Atalanta—will have the same duties as the NATO mission, including escorting ships carrying relief aid to Somalia, protecting merchant ships and

the gap. The protesters then chained themselves together and erected a barrier around themselves.

It took nearly five hours to clear the tarmac. Police arrested 57 people.

"If they can do it, I'm sure there would be nothing to stop terrorists," said Terry Purton, 61, a passenger whose flight to Bratislava was delayed.

The action—meant to protest a possible second runway at Stansted and escalating carbon

emissions—caused 56 cancellations and extensive delays. The British government is also considering adding another runway to Heathrow Airport, already Europe's busiest.

Stansted authorities said the runway at the airport—which is situated on about 2,000 acres (3.12 square miles) north of London—was never penetrated by the activists. Security monitors the airport perimeter with cameras and occasional patrols.

# Campus Life

## Providing equal opportunities for all students

By KRISTI EATON  
kristi\_eaton@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lucy Blanco-Maratita joined the Public School System's Board of Education in January 2006. In January 2008 she was named Board chair. Here she answers some questions:

**Question: What is your background with the Public School System?**

**Answer:** I have been a very active parent when my son first entered Head Start and then Tinian Elementary [School] some 20 years ago. I was a member of Head Start group, the elementary PTA and then became a PTA officer (I tried all positions, from secretary to president), was involved in special ed evaluation, accreditation, etc. All these happened before I even thought of running for a seat on the BOE. I really enjoyed helping at the schools, and up to now, I am still involved to some extent such as a member of the BOE, coaching our mock trial team, participating in career days, etc. I was never an employee of PSS, though.



Blanco-Maratita

**Q: Can you explain what some of the functions of the Board of Education are?**

**A:** The functions of the BOE are addressed in Article XV of the Constitution. We are required to formulate policy, administer, and exercise control over the PSS through the Commissioner. We are also required to ensure that free public education is available to every person between 6-16 (compulsory age provided by statute); that our policies provide the maximum educational and training opportunities; that we listen to our community; we provide guidance to the students in developing their goals; and value our unique culture and languages.

**Q: Why did you want to be a part of the Board?**

**A:** Initially, I ran because I wanted to do more for our students here on Tinian. I wanted to see that all students, no matter what island they were on, are afforded equal opportunities and the maximum educational and training opportunities. Now that I am on the Board, I realize the importance of not only ensuring the students on Tinian succeed, but that all our students in the CNMI succeed because that is critical to our future as a successful nation, a prosperous CNMI.

**Q: What are some of the toughest challenges facing the Public School System right now?**

**A:** Budget, budget, budget. You only get what you pay for. So how can we provide the maximum educational and training opportunities as required under the Constitution and as we should give all our students, unless PSS is adequately funded?

Lack of understanding of critical educational data, research, and principles. We need to make sure that our policy makers, decision makers in other arenas, such as Legislature, administration, agencies, are given the right information, the data they need to make critical decisions that

affect our PSS. They also need to be informed as to the basic education principles so that the policies they set actually advance educational goals and objectives.

Lack of local human resources—we need to ensure that we have local human resources for PSS to have the quality teachers and staff. We cannot afford to continue to recruit off-island because the competition is getting tougher due to the requirements and offers made by other jurisdictions and our inability to offer those same attractive incentives.

**Q: How can PSS overcome these problems?**

**A:** Budget—work with our Legislators to come up with more innovative ways of making money for education and help our legislators understand the critical needs of our schools; share information more with the public about education in general and needs of schools in particular. Human resources—encourage more scholarships for teachers, counselors, special education staff and professionals, etc.

**Q: During your term as chair, what would you like to accomplish?**

**A:** I would like to see a perfect school system wherein our students look forward to going to school each morning because they are challenged and love learning; the teachers flock to the gates because they love what they do and feel a sense of fulfillment from working for PSS and with our students, and that the parents, community, and public are very supportive of our schools.

But that may take many moons and I may not see those many moons. So, as a chair, I want to see PSS offer more career technical education courses, have a portfolio program in place for our students that they can use as a vehicle to preparing for their future, and have an academic counseling guidance system in place where students can access to plan for their future, such as college application and job training placement, a system in which PSS and the Board can use data from these academic guidance assessments to plan for system improvements, and further collaboration with other agencies to meet our students' needs.

**Q: Anything else you would like to add?**

**A:** I just wish that our parents [would] get more involved in the education of their children. They should not leave it to chance. They should take an active interest in what they are learning, talking to their children, their children's teachers, come visit the schools, talk to us, talk to the legislators. Demand the very best education for your children and work with us to get that for all our students. This involvement also applies to our parents of junior high and high school students. These are the special years where parents need to continue to be involved. The student needs that guidance especially in these years while they are planning what to do after graduation. I know that we can achieve the very best but only if we all work together.

## 7 habits of highly ineffective principals

By JAY MATHEWS  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

**make sure you keep your goals to yourself and avoid mission statements at all costs.**

Dave Larson, executive vice president at the food and agriculture company Cargill, said his company tells new employees on their first day how their work will help the company accomplish its goals. Contrast this with schools that hand new teachers a curriculum but don't explain how it will help teachers reach their students.

**3. Fight the current fad to assess students regularly. It is intrusive and insulting to teachers.**

Many school critics argue that we should let teachers test and grade in whatever way makes sense to them. The business and school leaders Nathan has recruited for his academy disagree. They think consistent means of assessment are important in diagnosing each child's progress and what the school is doing to help.

**4. Crack down on mistakes.**

"Mistakes within some limits are a vital part of growth," say Nathan and Plotz. "Organizations making a great deal of progress sometimes will make errors. Learning from mistakes is an

important part of progress."

**5. Don't let teachers meet regularly to talk about students and share ideas. They will only gossip and plot against you.**

One of the business leaders in the Nathan-Plotz report, former General Mills Foundation director Reatha Clark King, said an important way to improve quality is to "encourage people to think outside the box and free up their thinking."

**6. Inspiration is for saps. Your staff must know you're their boss, not their preacher.**

This seems obvious, but Nathan, Plotz and the executives they consulted don't buy it. They say, "The most effective leaders encourage and inspire people. Threats and fear will not produce the highest achievement."

**7. Whatever you do, don't try to select and train a successor.**

Nathan told me that, although many districts have principal training programs, he rarely found principals or superintendents who see it as a key responsibility, as corporate chiefs do, to develop talented people who could take over for them.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grace Christian Academy students who participated in the Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition pose for a souvenir picture.

## GCA congratulates PGFC winners

The administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to extend their congratulations to the following winners and everyone who participated in the Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition at San Antonio Elementary School last Dec. 6, 2008.

### K-2 DIVISION

#### Readers Forum Masters A

Claudilyn Laibayo- 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Karena Lei Torres- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Jasmine Phan- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum Masters B

Riley Anne Buenaventura-3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Andrei Ferrer- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum D

Catherine Leila Arroyo-3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Andrei Ferrer- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum C

Arvin Dayao- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum Masters B

#### Readers Forum B

Jasmine Michelle Gortayo- 5<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum D

Dianne Arnold-2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#### Readers Forum A

Francis Joseph Dalusung-2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#### Impromptu Speaking B

Arvin Dayao- 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Jim Michael Ham- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Clark Birmingham-3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Claudilyn Laibayo- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Caryl Andrei Batenga-5<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Impromptu Speaking C

Matt Jason Moran- 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Marcelo Masilungan Jr.-2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Tae Yong Kim- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Martin Angelo Pangilinan- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

#### Impromptu Speaking A

Bryant Bryce Cayabyab- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### Impromptu Speaking B

Camille Joy Masilungan-1<sup>st</sup> Place

Mark Daniel Versoza- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### Duo Interpretation B- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Mulan Ta

Jenifer Yokoyama

#### Duo Interpretation A- 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Ezra Maze Cervera

Glenn Nelson Vidal

#### 3-5 DIVISION

#### Readers Forum Masters C

Ha Won Samuel Seo- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Peggy Pixley- 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Angela Felici Cruz  
Camille Joy Masilungan  
Ha Won Samuel Seo

#### Choral Speaking B -5<sup>th</sup> Place

Dianne Arnold

Vyela Cervera

Yasmin Angela Marcelo

Peggy Pixley

Mrs. Esther Manzano, GCA's PGFC coordinator would like to thank all the teachers who trained and helped in practicing the participants: Miss Melissa Harper, K5; Mrs. Leah Garfil, 1<sup>st</sup> grade; Mrs. Kate Ganapin, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; and Miss Kelly Dawe, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She also wants to thank all the PGFC volunteer judges for their help whenever they have time: Mr. Mark Birmingham, Mrs. Mirasol Dayao, Mrs. Sheryl Batenga, Mrs. Marivic Pascual, Mrs. Rose Shirata, Mrs. Mary Ann Sacramento, Mr. Renato Macatangay, and Ms. Marites Gortayo.

## Life &amp; Style

# Going green

## with Tan Holdings and Joeten

Tan Holdings Corp. has partnered with Joeten Corp. for its 3R reusable shopping bag campaign during a signing ceremony held last weekend at the Azucena Room of the Fiesta Report and Spa Saipan.

The campaign encourages Tan Holdings employees to use reusable bags instead of plastic bags. A specially-designed reusable canvas 3R tote bag will be distributed to all Tan Holdings employees and each time they use the bag to buy anything at any Joeten supermarket for a minimum amount of \$5, they will get a raffle coupon.

In March next year, the tickets will be raffled and prizes will include a roundtrip ticket to Manila, a roundtrip ticket to Guam, and an overnight stay for two at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Saturday's launching, which also saw the debut of the campaign's 3R mascot, was attended by Tan Holdings executives and employees, representatives of Joeten and the Division of Environmental Quality.



Tan Holdings Corp. CEO and president Jerry Tan, left, poses with Joeten head supervisor Lou Tian and wholesale manager J.J. Tenorio during the launching of the 3R reusable shopping bag campaign at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan last Saturday, Dec. 6.



Saipan Grand Hotel GM Ed Cho and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan GM B.K. Park during the launch of the 3R reusable shopping bag campaign at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan last Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Tan Holdings Corp.'s HR staff Ana Kim and POI passenger service agent Lynn Acosta have their picture taken with the 3R mascot.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Division of Environmental Quality's Peter Houk speaks about the benefits of using reusable bags when shopping and the harm that plastic bags cause on marine life.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Joeten executive vice president Dennis Yoshimoto speaks during the launch of the campaign tie-up between Tan Holdings Corp. and Joeten.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Century Insurance president Dave Sablan speaks during the launching of the 3R campaign at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Dec. 6.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Century Insurance president Dave Sablan and Joeten executive vice president Dennis Yoshimoto shake hands after signing the agreement that sets the stage for the 3R reusable bag campaign.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Tan Holdings Corp. and Joeten executives pose after the signing ceremony for the launch of the 3R reusable bag campaign at the Azucena Room of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Tan Holdings Corp. and Joeten executives and marine biologist Peter Houk pose with the campaign's 3R mascot.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Tan Holdings Corp. president and CEO Jerry Tan poses with company executives, managers, and employees after the launch of the 3R campaign.

## Harry Belafonte to auction unknown papers of MLK

NEW YORK (AP)—An original handwritten outline for Martin Luther King Jr.'s first speech condemning the Vietnam War owned by his friend Harry Belafonte is going on the auction block this week.

Sotheby's will offer the document for sale Thursday along with two others: the scribbled notes for a speech King planned to deliver in Memphis, Tenn., three days after he was assassinated and a letter of condolence from President Lyndon B. Johnson to King's widow.

The auction house put the overall pre-sale estimate for the three documents at \$750,000 to \$1.13 million, with the Vietnam speech valued at \$500,000 to \$800,000.

Belafonte, a singer and actor, was an early disciple of King and his host on King's visits to New York dating from the mid-1950s.

In a telephone interview, Belafonte said he was putting his documents up for sale because "I am at the end of my life—I will be 82 shortly—and there are a lot of causes I believe in for which resources are not available, and there is a need to redistribute those resources."

Selby Kiffer, a senior manuscripts curator at Sotheby's, said the anti-war speech possibly ranks in importance with King's most famous papers: his "I Have a Dream" speech, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" and a draft of his Nobel Prize acceptance address.

Kiffer and Elizabeth Muller, a Sotheby's expert on manuscripts who in 2006 discovered a printed version of the jail letter, said the Belafonte papers were previously unknown to King archivists.

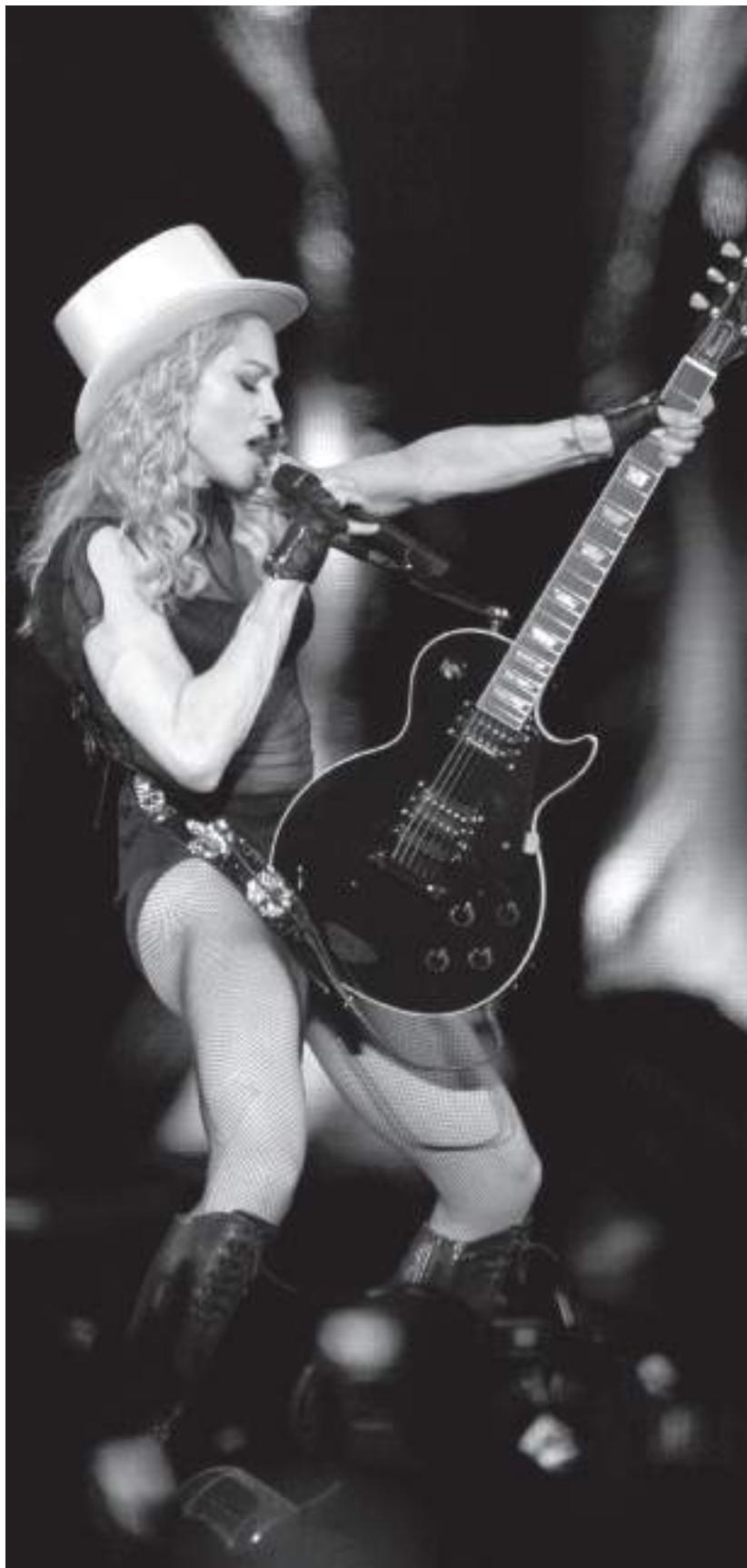
Some 10,000 King documents that his family had planned to auction at Sotheby's in 2006 were bought for \$32 million by the city of Atlanta and are housed at King's alma mater, Morehouse College. Another King collection is at Boston University.

King wrote the first draft of his Vietnam speech in ink on three sheets from a yellow legal pad and left it behind at Belafonte's apartment when he went to Los Angeles to deliver the finished remarks on Feb. 25, 1967, before a hotel crowd of Hollywood celebrities and four U.S. senators who also had denounced the war.

The speech, titled "The Casualties of the War in Vietnam," cited, along with military and civilian victims, a loss of moral principle, resources diverted from the fight for civil rights and the war's effect in alienating other nations from the United States.

The Memphis notes, found in King's pocket after he was gunned down April 4, 1968, on the balcony of a Memphis motel, were given by Coretta Scott King to the late Stan Levison, a close friend who then gave them to Belafonte.

In the notes, King praises the city's sanitation workers for striking against "starvation wages"—the cause that had brought him to Memphis. "What does it profit to be able to eat in an integrated restaurant and not make enough money to take the wife out?" he asks.



U.S. singer Madonna performs during a concert, part of her "Sticky and Sweet" tour, in Buenos Aires, Friday, Dec. 5, 2008.

## OJ Simpson transferred from Vegas to Nevada prison

LAS VEGAS (AP)—O.J. Simpson was transferred Monday from jail to a Nevada state prison to begin serving nine to 33 years for his felony convictions in a gunpoint confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers, a state corrections official said.

Simpson, 61, arrived at High Desert State Prison in Indian Springs, Department of Corrections spokeswoman Suzanne Pardee said. The all-male medium security prison, about 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas, has 3,000 beds and serves as the intake center for all new southern Nevada prison inmates.

"It went as expected," said Simpson lawyer Yale Galanter, who said he knew Simpson had been due to be moved sometime this week from the Clark County jail. "We're actually expecting that he'll be assigned to one of the southern Nevada prisons."

Simpson trial co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart remained Monday at the Clark County Detention Center, jail records showed. Stewart, 54, received 7 1/2 to 27 years when he and Simpson were sentenced Friday on 10 charges by Judge Jackie Glass in Las

Vegas. A Clark County District Court jury found the two men guilty Oct. 3 of 12 charges, including kidnapping, armed robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary and conspiracy in the Sept. 13, 2007, confrontation. The judge dismissed two felony coercion charges at sentencing.

Simpson, Stewart and four former co-defendants were accused of robbing two memorabilia dealers at gunpoint in a cramped room at the Palace Station casino hotel.

Simpson insisted he only wanted to retrieve items that he said had been stolen from him in the years after he was acquitted of murder in the 1994 slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman in Los Angeles.

The four former co-defendants—Michael McClinton, Walter Alexander, Charles Cashmore and Charles Ehrlich—face sentencing Tuesday morning before Glass. Each pleaded guilty to reduced felony charges and testified against Simpson and Stewart in return for a chance at probation instead of prison.

McClinton faces up to 11 years for

## Madonna wins privacy case against UK tabloid

LONDON (AP)—Madonna won a court battle Monday against a British tabloid that published pictures recently of her wedding eight years ago.

The one-time Material Girl won a judgment against a British tabloid that she accused of breaching her privacy and copyright by publishing pictures of her 2000 wedding to film director Guy Ritchie. The court victory came just a few weeks after she was granted a preliminary divorce from Ritchie.

Madonna, who says the pictures were stolen from her by an interior designer in California, is seeking damages in excess of 5 million pounds (\$7.5 million) from the publishers of the Mail on Sunday newspaper.

Judge David Eady entered a judgment in her favor but deferred a decision on compensation until the new year.

Compensation awards in similar cases are usually much smaller, but Matthew Nicklin, a lawyer representing Madonna, said the exclusive personal pictures were estimated to be worth that much.

A Mail on Sunday spokesman said Madonna did not own the copyright to the photographs when they were published and insisted they were not worth the amount she is seeking.

"Their commercial value today is indicated by the very modest sum we and other publications paid for them. The figure suggested by Madonna's lawyers is simply fantasy," he said. The spokesman asked not to be named in line with company policy.

Nicklin said the newspaper paid 5,000 pounds (\$7,500) for the pictures.

Madonna, 50, and Ritchie, 40, were married at a Scottish castle on Dec. 22, 2000 at a lavish ceremony attended by

many celebrities, including Gwyneth Paltrow and Stella McCartney.

No pictures of the event had been published until they appeared Oct. 19 in the Mail on Sunday, said Nicklin. The newspaper published 11 photographs over the front page and a double-page inside spread. "She was ambushed, for the simple reason that if the Mail on Sunday had told her what they intended to do, the claimant would have sought and obtained an injunction," Nicklin said.

Nicklin said the only photographs of the wedding were taken by photographer Jean-Baptiste Mondino and presented to Madonna as a gift. He said Madonna put the photographs in an album that she kept at her home in Beverly Hills, California.

He said an interior designer, Robert Joseph Wilber, "surreptitiously gained access to the photograph album and copied at least 26 photographs."

Those images, which he said had "essentially been stolen by Mr. Wilber" were sold Oct. 15 to the Mail on Sunday by a woman identified as Bonnie Robin of Los Angeles, Nicklin said.

Despite admissions made by the newspaper, Madonna has not received an apology, Nicklin added. Madonna's spokeswoman Liz Rosenberg said Madonna will give any money she wins from the case to the charity Raising Malawi, which she set up to help children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic in the African nation.

Madonna's adopted 3-year-old son, David Banda, is from Malawi.

Madonna and Ritchie were granted a preliminary decree of divorce on Nov. 21. The split is expected to become final early next month.



O.J. Simpson speaks during his sentencing hearing at the Clark County Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas, Friday, Dec. 5, 2008. Sitting right to Simpson is his lawyer Yale Galanter.

robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery. Alexander faces up to six years for conspiracy to commit robbery, but received a promise that prosecutors would argue for a suspended sentence. Ehrlich faces up to five years for attempted burglary and attempted accessory to robbery. Cashmore faces up to five years for accessory to robbery.

State prisons chief Howard Skolnik

has said Simpson and Stewart would spend their first 21 days in prison undergoing inmate intake evaluations before they are assigned to a prison to serve their sentences.

For those three weeks, the daily routine is mostly boredom, Skolnik said. Inmates are allowed five hours a day outside their cells, and no mail or parcel deliveries. Only their lawyers may visit.

# 'Twilight' director won't return for sequel

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"Twilight" director Catherine Hardwicke won't be back for "New Moon," the sequel to the hit teen vampire romance.

Summit Entertainment, which released "Twilight" last month, said the scheduled release of "New Moon" in late 2009 or early 2010 conflicts with Hardwicke's desired planning time. The film, based on the second book in Stephenie Meyer's series, continues to follow the forbidden relationship between

vampire Edward Cullen and high schooler Bella Swan.

Stars Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart will reprise their roles for part two.

Hardwicke, whose previous films include "Thirteen" and "Lords of Dogtown," had the highest opening ever for a female director when "Twilight" made nearly \$70 million in its first weekend. It's grossed over \$138 million in three weeks.

"I am sorry that due to timing I will not have the opportunity to direct 'New Moon,'" Hardwicke said Sunday in a joint news release with Summit.

"Directing 'Twilight' has been one of the great experiences of my life, and I am grateful to the fans for their passionate support of the film. I wish everyone at Summit the best with the sequel—it is a great story."

Erik Feig, Summit's president of production, thanked Hardwicke and said she did "an incredible job in helping us to launch the 'Twilight' franchise."

"We as a studio have a mandate to bring the next installment in the franchise to the big screen in a timely fashion so that fans can get more of Edward, Bella and all of the characters that Stephenie Meyer has created," said Feig.

Hardwicke did not return a call left on her home phone Monday, but a man's voice on the outgoing message said in part: "We've been kicked out of the 'Twilight' editorial, so we're homeless, so please leave your name and number after the tone."

## Family fears they'll lose 'Extreme Makeover' home

**OAK PARK, Mich.** (AP)—Four years ago, millions of television viewers watched as a deaf couple marveled at the renovations to their home that would help them better accommodate their blind, autistic son.

But now the couple, Judy and Larry Vardon, worry that the home could face foreclosure. They were featured in a two-hour episode of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" that set a ratings record for the show when broadcast Nov. 6, 2004.

Weighed down by a mortgage payment that has almost doubled since the makeover and medi-

cal insurance that doesn't cover autism treatment for 16-year-old Lance, the Vardons are clinging to the hope that Larry will keep his job at Chrysler LLC's Sterling Heights stamping plant. The company is on the brink of bankruptcy as it and the other Detroit automakers appeal to Congress for emergency loans.

"I'm afraid I'm going to lose my house now," Judy Vardon, using sign language through an interpreter, told The Macomb Daily of Mount Clemens. "This house really belongs to Lance.

This is his environment. He can't speak out for himself, and

I hope we can save this house." ABC said 20.5 million viewers saw a crew led by host Ty Pennington rehabilitate the Vardons' 980-square-foot house near Detroit from the inside out, including installing cameras and flat-screen monitors allowing the Vardons to monitor Lance.

After the makeover, the couple refinanced the mortgage, and their monthly payments have nearly doubled—from \$1,200 to \$2,300. They had debts of \$20,000 for the boy's therapy alone.

"We didn't have bad spending habits," Judy Vardon said. "My husband got laid off for a time,

and insurance wouldn't cover Lance's autism therapy and some other things like his vision and special dental work."

The couple are working with a nonprofit group that aids families in crisis to help them negotiate a lower mortgage rate.

The Vardons remain grateful to "Extreme Makeover" and the volunteers who worked to renovate their house and make it safer for Lance.

"We're a close family that loves each other," Judy Vardon said. "I feel that I was given this life to show others that you can face these challenges."

## Diana Krall to release Brazilian jazz record

Diana Krall describes her first record in three years as intimate, sensual—and erotic.

"I'm not coy single girl singing 'Peel Me A Grape.' I love that song but I don't love it for me any more," Krall, 43, said from her Vancouver, British Columbia home in an interview last week. "I feel more womanly, I guess, and I think this record is a love letter but very sensual, more on the erotic side. It's definitely late night."

"Quiet Nights," to be released on March 31, is Krall's CD of new material in three years. The sultry jazz vocalist and pianist known for her crossover appeal had twin sons with husband Elvis Costello in 2006; they turned 2 Dec. 6. Krall said she's never been happier, and the record reflects that.

The 10 songs include ballads, three recordings of songs by bossa nova legend Antonio Carlos Jobim, and standards such as "Walk On By" by Burt Bacharach.

"It was just the greatest recording experience I've had to date," said Krall, who was inspired to make the record following a trip to Brazil last year.

A two-time Grammy winner, Krall is surrounded by familiar faces on "Quiet Nights." In addition to her longtime quartet and producer Tommy LiPuma, who worked with her on nine previous recordings, arranger Claus Ogerman returns. He last worked with Krall on her 2001 record "The Look of Love."



In this Nov. 8, 2008 file photo, director Catherine Hardwicke poses for a portrait in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

many of bossa nova's first wave of recordings in the 1960s, working with Jobim, Frank Sinatra, Stan Getz and Bill Evans. Ogerman came out of semiretirement to once again work with Krall.

LiPuma, who first worked with Krall in 1994, said the record shows how she has matured as a singer. "She approaches her vocal phrasing much more

like an instrumentalist than a straight singer," LiPuma said. "It's in her reading of the lyrics, and the timbre of her voice, much more misty like Peggy Lee in her mature period."

In addition to finishing "Quiet Nights," Krall is producing a new Barbra Streisand record that is slated to be completed in January and released sometime in

2009. Krall intends to tour North America in April following the release of "Quiet Nights."

"I think I've reached the best time in my life," Krall said. "I really went through some rough spots with the death of my mother (in 2002). ... But now that I have my own family, I'm working as hard as I ever worked, but I feel like I have it all."

## Jonas Brothers, Taylor Swift to welcome '09 on ABC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Rock idols The Jonas Brothers, country music star Taylor Swift and pop veteran Lionel Richie will ring in 2009 from Times Square on "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve."

They will perform live during the ABC broadcast, joining

Clark in New York along with his co-host Ryan Seacrest, the network says.

Country music artist Kellie Pickler also will be on hand in Times Square with live reports on the festivities.

As previously announced, Natasha Bedingfield, Fall Out

Boy, Jesse McCartney, Ne-Yo, Pussycat Dolls, Solange and Robin Thicke will perform during the Hollywood Party segments, which will be hosted by Fergie.

A New Year's Eve tradition, the show will begin Dec. 31 at 10 p.m. EST.



In this May 3, 2008 file photo, Diana Krall performs during the 2008 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival at the New Orleans Fairgrounds Racetrack in New Orleans.

## Former Classics IV singer Dennis Yost dies at 65

**CINCINNATI** (AP)—Dennis Yost, lead singer of the 1960s group the Classics IV, has died in an Ohio hospital. He was 65.

Yost died Sunday at Fort Hamilton Hospital in Hamilton, about 30 miles northwest of Cincinnati. He died of respiratory failure, said hospital spokeswoman Marielou Vierling.

The Classics IV's hits included "Spooky," "Stormy" and "Traces of Love."

Yost had been in nursing homes since suffering a brain injury sustained in a 2005 fall, said the singer's friend and biographer Joe Glickman.

The Classics IV got their start in Jacksonville, Fla., where Yost, a native of Detroit, was raised, Glickman said. Their hit recordings were produced in Atlanta under the supervision of producer Buddy Buie and Bill Lowery, founder of Lowery Music Inc.

The group performed together for about five years.

Buie, who was a co-writer of the group's songs with the group's guitarist, J.R. Cobb, said: "Dennis had an incredible voice—just a great voice for love songs."

The 67-year-old Buie, who's retired and living in Eufaula, Ala., added: "I am deeply saddened by his passing."

Cobb, 65, said he and Yost grew up in Jacksonville and rode motorcycles together before they were in the band. Cobb, who later performed

with the Atlanta Rhythm Section and with the Highwaymen—a country group that included Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson and Willie Nelson—is retired and lives in Monticello, Ga.

"Dennis was a friend as well as a fellow musician," said Cobb. "I always thought he had a very distinctive voice, and I think we had some of the hits we had because of him and his ability as a singer."

Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, a vocalist with the former rock and comedy group Sha Na Na, held a benefit concert last year to help with Yost's increasing medical costs, Glickman said.

"He was a tremendous talent who did an enormous amount of the work for that group," said Bauman, who works against copycat performers as chairman of Truth in Music, based at the Vocal Group Hall of Fame Foundation in Sharon, Pa.

"Paradoxically, I came to know Dennis better in the later years, in which he was involved in a massive struggle to retain his own musical identity, which was one of the saddest and most difficult cases of someone losing the name of their own group, when he had pretty much been the group," Bauman said.

Bauman said truth in music legislation has been adopted in 26 states, and a bill was expected to make it through the legislature and to the governor's desk next week in Yost's home state of Ohio.

# Leno to reportedly stay at NBC



In this Sunday, April 27, 2008 file photo, Jay Leno poses on the press line at the Silver Rose Gala held at the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

**NEW YORK** (AP)—NBC reportedly has signed its late-night star Jay Leno to a contract that will keep him at the network and move him to prime time.

Under the new deal, Leno, whose "Tonight" show hosting job will go to Conan O'Brien next June, would have a new show airing 10 p.m. Eastern every weeknight, according to *The New York Times*.

The deal reportedly will be announced Tuesday.

The arrangement would enable NBC to hold on to Leno, who might have jumped to a competing network, and even been on the air as a rival to O'Brien.

It also stands to significantly reduce programming costs for the struggling network, which has long been No. 4 in the ratings and last week laid off 500 employees. Leno's five-a-week talk-variety format would be considerably cheaper to produce than most scripted dramatic series.

This "strip" scheduling is common other times of the day, but seldom seen in prime time. Such a money-saving move was foreshadowed Monday by NBC Universal chief executive Jeff Zucker in remarks during an investor conference in New York. He said the network would have to consider scaling

back the number of hours it airs programming.

Leno, who took over "Tonight" from Johnny Carson in 1992, is effectively being evicted from its anchor desk under a deal NBC announced four years ago that guaranteed the job to "Late Night" host O'Brien.

Aimed at keeping O'Brien at NBC, the plan also guaranteed the network five more years of Leno's services at 11:35 p.m., where he continues to reign as late-night ratings champ. But it put NBC in danger of losing Leno, whose future subsequently became a matter of much speculation. His farewell as "Tonight" host is next May 29.

## 'Milk' earns Stanley Kramer prize from Producers



In this image released by Focus Features, Sean Penn portrays gay rights activist Harvey Milk in a scene from a scene from, "Milk." AP

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Sean Penn's film biography "Milk" is receiving the Producers Guild of America's Stanley Kramer Award, which honors pictures taking on provocative social issues. The prize, announced Monday, will be presented at the guild's awards show Jan. 24.

"Milk" stars Penn as San Francisco politician Harvey Milk, who in 1977 won a seat on the board of supervisors to become the first openly gay man elected to major public office in the United States. The film is directed by Gus Van Sant.

The following year, Milk was slain along with Mayor George Moscone by a board colleague.

The Kramer Award is named after the legendary filmmaker whose works include "The Defiant Ones," "Judgment at Nuremberg" and "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner."

### CNN's John King to anchor revamped Sunday newscast

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Soon, Wolf Blitzer can sleep in Sunday mornings.

CNN's "Late Edition" is about to get a makeover, with John King taking over from Blitzer, the Sunday newscast's anchor for 10 years. The first hour of the four-hour block will focus on politics, followed by national and world affairs, the network says. It also will include "Reliable Sources," the media-oriented discussion program hosted by Howard Kurtz.

With the broadcast's January debut, King will retain his title as chief national correspondent.

Blitzer, CNN's lead anchor for political coverage, will continue anchoring the three-hour "Situation Room" each weekday. Both he and King have extended their contracts through 2012.

These Sunday changes follow NBC's announcement of David Gregory as the new moderator of "Meet the Press."

## Winners blaze to a finish in 'Amazing Race' finale

**NEW YORK** (AP)—It's been an "Amazing Race" indeed for Nick and Starr Spangler.

The brother-and-sister team took first place and the reality show's \$1 million prize in the finale aired Sunday on CBS.

The duo charged through the last leg of the global race in Portland, Ore. They balanced on a beam high in the air, descended a zip line from 2,000 feet and solved a complex puzzle.

They then searched throughout the city for clues to where the finish line was before franti-

cally hailing a taxi to it.

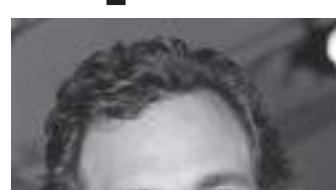
After crossing it, the siblings hugged. Starr Spangler told her brother: "You're my best friend. I love you."

Nick Spangler, 22, said he was proud of his sister, who is a year younger.

"She's been unbelievable on this race," he said. "More than \$1 million, more than being the winners of 'The Amazing Race,' I love the experience that I've gone through with my sister, and I've loved seeing her succeed so greatly."

In the 13th season of "The Amazing Race," contestants logged nearly 40,000 miles on a trip that took them through Brazil, Bolivia, New Zealand, Cambodia, India, Kazakhstan and Russia.

## Suspect in Ruffalo shooting in custody



**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** (AP)—Police say two people wanted for questioning about the shooting of actor Mark Ruffalo's brother have turned themselves in.

Beverly Hills police say the pair, Shaha Mishael Adham and Brian Scofield, turned themselves in Monday afternoon.

Adham is suspected of shooting 39-year-old Scott Ruffalo a week ago. Authori-

ties had issued an attempted murder warrant for the 26-year-old's arrest.

Scofield is being held on a misdemeanor traffic warrant. Jail records did not indicate whether the pair have attorneys. Jail records show a court date for Adham has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday.

Authorities did not release an update on Ruffalo's condition on Monday.

In this Sept. 13, 2007 file photo, actor Mark Ruffalo attends the premiere of "Reservation Road" during the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

## Teenager crosses the line pursuing cousin's husband

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 17-year-old, happily married girl, but I have a problem. My 15-year-old cousin "Rayleen" likes my husband. She calls his cell phone at all hours of the night, and last week she sent him a letter telling him that I was cheating on him (a lie!) and that when he decides to get a divorce from me, if he wants a "real woman" to give her a call.

Rayleen has always had a thing for older men, but this time she has just gone too far. I know my husband loves me and would never believe her, but I'm not sure how to tell my cousin to stop. I don't want to be mean, but she can't have him.

FURIOUS IN ALABAMA

**DEAR FURIOUS:** It appears that no one ever taught your hormonal cousin that there are boundaries that should not be crossed. You should not be the person telling Rayleen to cool off and face reality. That message should come from your husband, as he tells her to stop calling and stop writing nasty letters because he already has a real woman—his wife.

**P.S.** And the letter should be turned over to Rayleen's mother because right now your cousin needs some parenting a lot worse than she needs a man.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a 23-year-old guy who, due to money problems, credit card bills and student loans, recently moved back with my parents. Before I moved in they made me agree to a written contract that included no drinking, no smoking of any kind, a midnight curfew, getting a job and stating that once I move out I can't move back in again.

I get what they're trying to do, but I feel like they are treating me like a child. I only agreed to the terms because I was desperate.

I have abided by all the rules, but they still are suspicious of me breaking the contract after five months under their roof. I want to move out, but I am still unable to do so. What can I do to make this situation better?

DESPERATE IN ARIZONA

**DEAR DESPERATE:** Your parents may have insisted on the stipulations of the contract because of something that happened before you first moved out on your own. Because they feel strongly about drinking, smoking and the curfew, the best advice I can offer is to obey the rules, avoid arguments and save your money until you can earn enough to become independent again.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** With the economic problems so many people are having, I thought I'd share a holiday gift suggestion with you.

Years ago, I realized my nephew was receiving more toys than he could ever enjoy, so I gave him a Christmas ornament instead. He was only 5 or 6 at the time, so I'm not sure he really appreciated it then. However, as more nieces and nephews came along, I continued the tradition of giving them ornaments.

They all grew to treasure their personal ornaments and took great delight in having something of their own to hang on the tree each year.

DAVID S. IN MINNEAPOLIS

**DEAR DAVID S.:** Thank you for sharing a wonderful idea. I'm sure that now your nieces and nephews are grown, hanging those ornaments on their own trees has special significance.

I knew a woman years ago who used to craft gorgeous Christmas tree ornaments using Styrofoam balls decorated with ribbons, sequins and beads. They were special not only because of the love and work she put into them, but also because they were entirely unique.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbook Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



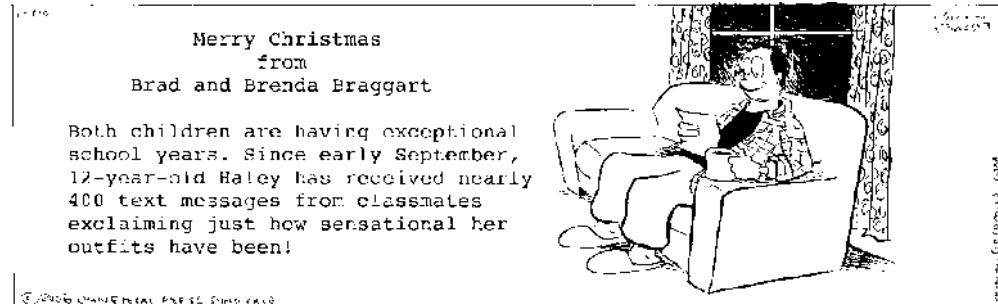
By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

By Glenn McCoy

## The Duplex

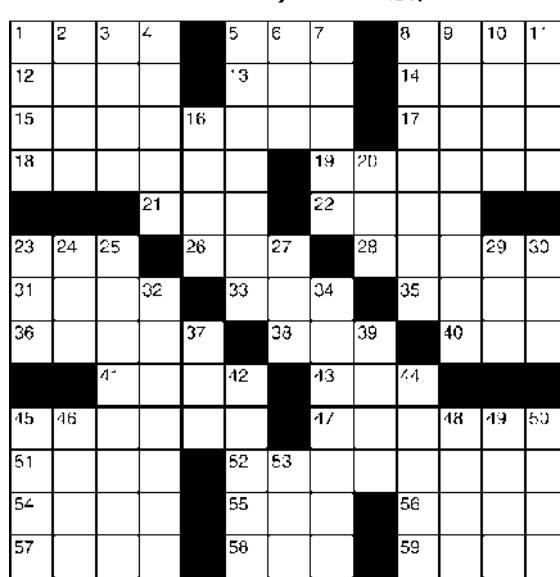


## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35	Literary sleuth	57	Other-wise Wolfe	11	Sea flock	
1	Malaria symptom	Wolfe	58	Youngster	16	Office holder?	
5	Bowl-shaped utensil	36	After-dinner speech?	59	Left-overs	20	Chop
8	Vaulted alcove	38	Runic letter (Var.)	23	Unruly bunch	24	Mimic
12	Lion's share	40	Liotta or Romano	1	Roadie's burden, in part	25	Sleeper cars
13	Previous to	41	Burden	2	Toe woe	27	Morning moisture
14	Litigant	43	Bud's partner	3	"Back in the —"	29	Historic period
15	Outdoor vendor's wagon	45	Baffle	4	Group character	30	Sauce source
17	Scheme	47	PC variety	5	Rich	32	Cause of great pain
18	Walk leisurely	51	Winged bulletin	6	Bobby of hockey	34	Established firmly
19	1-Across component	52	Bulletin board	7	Sailing vessel	37	Owns
21	Perc	54	Accessories	8	Headache	39	Ham's dad
22	Medal earner	55	Crooked	9	remedy	42	Station
23	Chart	56	Indivisible	10	Sweater type	44	Top
26	Advanced deg.	57	Ostriches' kin	11	Signet	45	Contemptible
28	Window's merry ones	58	10	Solution time: 21 mins.		46	Hebrew month
31	Piece of work	59	Ostriches' kin			48	Opportunity
33	Evergreen type	60	Signet			49	Responsibility
						50	"Hey!"
						53	Popular card game

Yesterday's answer 12-10

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ or y.) A King Features service, NYC.

## CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Raven-Symone, 23; Nia Peeples, 47; Kenneth Branagh, 48; Michael Clarke Duncan, 51

**Happy Birthday:** Do things that will help your state of mind and build your confidence. This is a great year for restructuring your game plan to fit your lifestyle and your basic needs. It will be you who make your positive life changes. Be honest about your expectations and you will accomplish your goals. Your numbers are 2, 4, 17, 21, 24, 32, 38

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): A surprise is heading your way. Contact people you have worked with in the past and you will get an interesting lead on something you want to pursue. Take advantage of everything and anything. **★★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Stress levels are high at this time of the year, with so much to do and so little time to do it. Calm down, make your to-do list and don't let anyone's nagging deter you. Less talk and more work will pay off. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Make today a fun-filled day. Check out your travel plans for the holiday season or pick up gifts for special people. You should make a point of planning dinner with someone you find stimulating. Don't volunteer for something if you don't really have the time. **★★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't be tempted to purchase something that claims to do the impossible. Use discretion. A change at work may upset you but, in the end, you will realize it's to your advantage. **★★★**

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Make today a memorable affair. Include the ones you love in something that will enhance the upcoming festive holiday season. Make plans to entertain but do so on a shoestring. By coming up with cost-efficient ideas, you will gain popularity. **★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There is no time to waste. Finish all the things that need to be done before the year comes to a close. You don't want to be left in a vulnerable financial position. Harsh talks will lead to isolation not resolution. **★★★★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let anyone weasel his or her way into your affairs. Maintain control. This is not the time to overreact. Keep the peace but be honest, not stubborn, about what you want. **★★**

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will try to cause trouble for you. It is vital that you do what benefits you most and take a pass on things that don't. You are better off sticking with like-minded people who have similar goals. **★★**

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Travel for business will pay off in terms of what you learn. Anger will be your downfall; diplomacy will lead to your success. Show your talents, not someone else's shortcomings and you will excel. **★★**

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make adjustments at home that will suit your needs during the festive season. Help out someone elderly and you will benefit from your good will through the information and experience this person can offer. Make adjustments that may save you money in the future. **★★★★**

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATEence this person can offer. Make adjustments that may save you money in the future. **★★★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make changes based on someone else's emotional whims. Stick to your plans if you want to get things finished on time. Consider your motives and be sure the reasoning behind your action is sound. Act fast but smartly regarding money. **★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Past acquaintances will be your ticket to future opportunities. Set up talks or plan to attend a function that will allow you to network with people who have common goals. You will get help if you share your ideas. **★★★★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are curious, inventive and have a vivid imagination. You are sensitive and intent on helping others. You are unpredictable and impulsive but also accomplish a lot throughout life.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4	1	5			6	9
3	6	8		5	1	
	9		4			
	4	7	9			
9			8			
2	7	1		5		
1				9		
8	2	7		3		
	9	3		8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	4	3	2	7	6	5	1	8
1	6	8	9	3	5	7	4	2
5	7	2	8	1	4	3	6	9
4	2	5	6	8	7	9	3	1
6	9	1	5	2	3	8	7	4
3	8	7	1	4	9	6	2	5
8	3	9	4	6	1	2	5	7
2	1	6	7	5	8	4	9	3
7	5	4	3	9	2	1	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEM LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the word forward.

WIKIPEDIA

E	T	L	R	S	E	G	U	I	D	L	I	N	E
N	S	O	A	F	W	W	P	E	A	C	L	I	K
T	I	I	P	O	R	A	F	D	E	E	R	R	K
E	L	N	V	I	G	A	L	I	R	E	U	T	R
R	H	D	T	F	C	D	A	T	A	O	Y	I	O
H	C	E	S	T	R	S	N	T	S	P	N	C	W
C	T	X	O	W	L	L	H	R	E	T	A	D	P
R	A	W	A	O	A	G	E	P	W	E	I	V	R
A	W	L	O	R	I	E	R	Y	R	A	L	D	A
E	E	K	G	R	T	O	C	H	A	N	G	S	C
S	U	F	Y	N	G	I	S	T	R	A	T	E	G
P	S	P	U	R	I	A	G	C	S	S	F	S	M
T	O	L	A	O	P	E	N	L	O	A	I		

# CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Last but not least

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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
BANKPACIFIC, LTD., ) CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0069 BE  
Plaintiff, ) vs.  
REGINA C. TORRES a/k/a ) NOTICE OF SALE  
REGINA ANN TORRES BLANCO, )  
Defendant. )

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on December 2, 2008, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1044 containing an area of 796 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 19, dated December 3, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4287, dated December 9, 1993.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on 2nd, January, 2009, at the hour of 3:00 p.m., at Carlsmith Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, P.O. Box 5241, Saipan, MP 96950-5241. The sale will be opened to general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED: Saipan, MP, December 5, 2008.

CARLSMITH BALL LLP  
/s/ Vincent J. Seman, F0361  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
BankPaci, Ltd.

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# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

BUTNOT BUTNOT butnot

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Find today's solution in this section

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Estate of MATEO M. TAISACAN and) CIVIL ACTION

The Estate of SABINA M. TAISACAN )

Plaintiffs, ) NO. 08-0099

v- )

JUAN B. QUITUGUA, )

Defendants. )

## SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, the Plaintiffs Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing Your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

By order of the above court:

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF SALE. The sale will be held on Friday, January 2, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

By order of the above court:

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



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**Saipan Tribune**

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(PRINT AND ONLINE)

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- 5-Liner \$35
- 3-Liner with picture \$45
- 5-Liner with picture \$55

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## Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- *Saipan Tribune*: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

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## Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

## CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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235- NEWS

# Wade leads Heat rally past Bobcats, 100-96



MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade scored 41 points, 10 in the final 8 1/2 minutes to help the Miami Heat rally in the fourth quarter and beat the Charlotte Bobcats 100-96 on Monday night.

Mario Chalmers scored 15 and Shawn Marion added 13 points for the Heat, who extended their winning streak to four—their longest in nearly two years.

Jason Richardson scored 24 for Charlotte, but missed two free throws that would have tied the game with 32.3 seconds remaining. Emeka Okafor added 19 points and 12 rebounds for the Bobcats, who lost to Miami for only the second time in the teams' last eight meetings.

The Bobcats were without starting forward Gerald Wallace, who missed the game because he was in Alabama to mourn the death of his grandmother. Charlotte coach Larry Brown said he expected Wallace to return to the team on Friday—meaning the 15.3-point scorer will likely miss games at New Orleans and Dallas later this week.

Without Wallace, the Charlotte bench did its part to pick up the slack.

D.J. Augustin scored 14 points and Adam Morrison added 13, including a long 3-pointer from the left wing with 6.7 seconds left that drew the Bobcats to 98-96.

But Wade sealed his night—and the win—with two free throws a half-second later.

Miami was down by seven with 8:21 remaining when Wade went to work, driving the lane for dunks that even left the Bobcats' bench speechless, leaping over players for rebounds, and finding Marion for a short jumper with 1:01 left that put the Heat ahead to stay.

And yes, the requisite "M-V-P" chants were back in the final moments, as Wade finished off his seventh game of at least 35 points already this season—by far the best in the league. Entering Monday, Cleveland's LeBron James was second on the 35-or-more list this year, getting there four times.

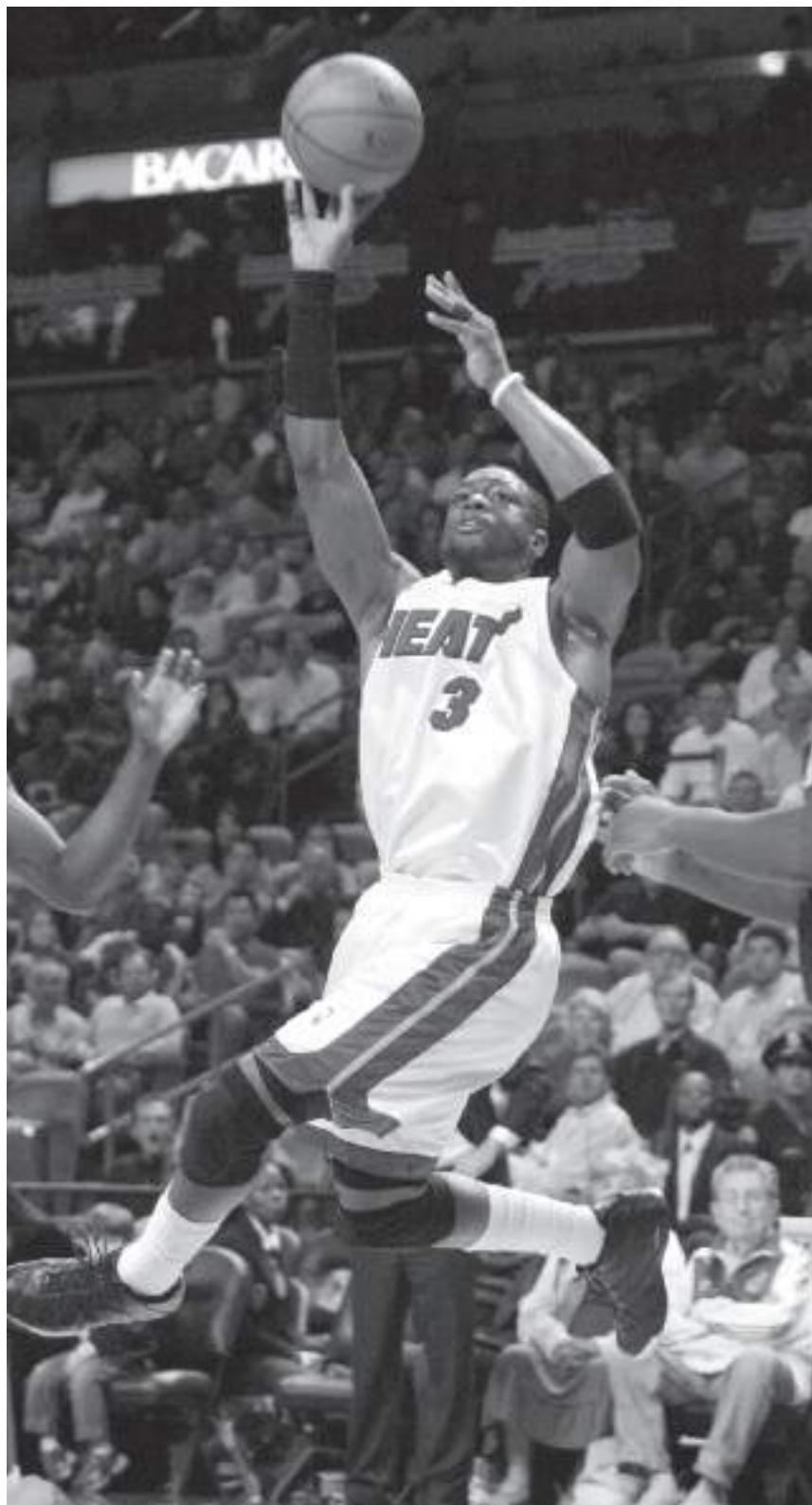
Wade leaped over two defenders for a defensive rebound with 4:11 left, dribbled to the other end, split two more defenders and drove the lane for a thundering dunk that tied the game at 86.

He also got the benefit of a late whistle, raising Charlotte's ire: Dudley was called for a block with 1:30 remaining against Wade, who made both free throws to put Miami up 90-88.

Augustin hit a 3-pointer with 1:11 to play that gave Charlotte a 91-90 lead, but Wade coolly brought the ball down on the ensuing possession, looked over a soft double-team to find an open Marion, and the Heat never trailed again.

The Heat entered averaging 19.7 points off turnovers per game this season, and defense has been the cornerstone of everything Heat coach Erik Spoelstra has preached this season.

But Miami created little in the form of takeaways on Monday, and that meant the Heat simply couldn't build any



AP  
Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade shoots to the basket against the Charlotte Bobcats in the second quarter of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008.

sort of sizable lead.

Charlotte had just three turnovers—which Miami turned into exactly zero points—in the first half, a major reason why, even though Wade had piled up 22 points at the midway point, the Heat went into the locker room leading only 51-48.

Wade got his scoring total up to 31 after the third quarter. Problem was, his teammates only contributed six points in the period, combining to shoot 3-for-11, and the Bobcats led 68-66 entering the fourth.

## Warriors 112, Thunder 102

At Oklahoma City, Andris Biedrins had 17 points and 21 rebounds, and Golden State ended its nine-game losing skid by holding off a late surge led by Kevin Durant and Oklahoma City.

Two of the Warriors' top scorers, Stephen Jackson (20.1 points per game) and Corey Maggette (19.1), sat out with injuries but it didn't slow their offense. Jamal Crawford scored 19 points, and Brandan Wright and Anthony Morrow each had 15 as Golden State (6-15) shot 50.6 percent from the field in leading from the opening tip.

Durant scored a season-high 41 and helped Oklahoma rally from 21 down in the fourth quarter, making consecutive 3-pointers to pull The Thunder (2-20) to 105-102 with about 33 seconds left before dropping their fourth straight.

## Grizzlies 109, Rockets 97

At Memphis, Tennessee, Rudy Gay scored 20 points, Hakim Warrick and O.J. Mayo added 18 points apiece and Memphis downed Houston for its second straight win at home.

Memphis made its first six 3-pointers to build an early lead and shot 51 percent overall. Gay, who did not start after arriving late for the shootaround, made eight of 14 shots.

Kyle Lowry had 11 points and five assists, while Mike Conley and Marc Gasol each had 10 points. Gasol and Warrick had eight rebounds apiece for Memphis.

Luis Scola had 16 points and 15 rebounds, and Rafer Alston had 16 points and eight assists for the injury depleted Rockets.

## Magic 95, Clippers 88

At Los Angeles, Dwight Howard had 23 points and 22 rebounds to lead Orlando past the Los Angeles Clippers.

Howard hit 20-20 for the second game in a row and it was his 17th double-double of the season. He also had six blocks and four assists. Howard had 21 points and 23 boards in a 98-89 over Oklahoma City his last game.

Rashard Lewis added 18 points for Orlando and Jameer Nelson had 15.

Zach Randolph had 21 points and 12 rebounds for Los Angeles, and Marcus Camby had 17 rebounds in the loss.

# Floundering Wolves bounce Randy Wittman

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—When Minnesota Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor fired Randy Wittman on Monday and asked Kevin McHale to step in, he didn't just make a coaching change.

Taylor changed the entire complexion of an organizational structure that has featured McHale at the top of the totem pole for the last 13 years.

Not only did Taylor ask McHale to take over as coach of a young, confidence-strapped team, but he also relieved McHale of the vice president of basketball operations title he has held since 1995.

"There are a few people in this league who have taken on roles where they've been coaches and general managers, but I think that's a very difficult thing," Taylor said. "I just want it to be very clear when I said to Kevin that I am offering him the coaching job, that this is a full-time coaching job. He is to concentrate on it 100 percent. That's the commitment he gave me and I'm confident that's what's best for this team."

McHale said he sees the coaching job not on an interim basis but as a "long-

term commitment." General manager Jim Stack and assistant GMs Fred Hoiberg and Rob Babcock will take over his executive duties, meaning McHale will no longer have the final say on personnel decisions.

The move appears to be a demotion, but McHale will remain involved in the decision-making process and seems satisfied with his new role.

"We'll all talk and go over decisions and everything else," McHale said of the new hierarchy. "It's just that, with the full-time coaching, it's just hard to assume both mantles on that. For me, I'm going to jump in with both feet on this."

It was an interesting twist to news that was expected after the Timberwolves (4-15) were embarrassed in a 23-point home loss to the Clippers on Saturday night that McHale called "unacceptable."

"It just looks like the guys are very beaten down," McHale said. "They've only played 19 games this season. They have 63 games left. It's no time to be beaten down. There's still time to rally and get going."

The team didn't seem to be responding to Wittman's hard-nosed style and has not taken the steps forward Taylor expected in the second year of a rebuilding plan following the trade of Kevin Garnett.

"Certainly we are way behind where I hoped we would be at this time," Taylor said.

This was the fourth NBA coaching firing this season following P.J. Carlesimo (Oklahoma City), Eddie Jordan (Washington) and Sam Mitchell (Toronto).

Wittman was 38-105 since taking over for Dwane Casey in January 2007. He went 22-60 last year, his only full season in charge. But after keeping things close early in the season, the Timberwolves have lost their last two games by a combined 52 points.

His career winning percentage of .326 (100-207)—including two seasons in Cleveland and almost two seasons in Minnesota—is the fifth worst all-time among coaches with at least 300 games, according to STATS, Inc.

"Sometimes you just need a change," forward Mark Madsen said. "Obviously Glen Taylor felt that very strongly. And so I buy into that now."

"Hopefully with that change we can rejuvenate, we can win some basketball games and we can take everything that coach Wittman taught us and apply it. And we can take something new from Kevin McHale and apply that."

McHale has done this before. He went 19-12 in the final 31 games of the 2004-05 season after Flip Saunders was fired.

"Last time I knew I was going to do it for the short term," McHale said. "This time I'm doing it for the long term. That's just the way it is."

It was an attention-grabbing maneuver for a team that appeared to be tuning Wittman out during this losing streak where the average margin of defeat was nearly 17 points.

Despite Wittman's emphasis on defense throughout training camp, the Wolves have allowed at least 100 points in seven straight games. What-

ever the coach was trying to teach, it either wasn't working or wasn't sinking in.

"Players cannot play when they're confused," McHale said. "You want to see a disaster, go see a bunch of confused players playing basketball."

It's been one disaster after another on the court of late.

"You look at the games, look at the scores of these games and you can just tell by that, that something was wrong," forward Ryan Gomes said.

Five of the team's first eight losses were by six points or less, which McHale said "tore their hearts out a little bit and they just fell into a little malaise."

McHale prefers a more freewheeling, matchup-oriented system. If it doesn't work, he has only himself to blame after hand-picking the roster through trades, free agency and the draft.

"If this doesn't work, it'll be on me," McHale said. "The thing I told Glen is that nothing changes with the plan. The plan stays the same. We have a lot of cap room in the future. We have multiple (draft) picks. Nothing's going to change. The only change is that I'm going to spending all my time coaching."

# Greg Maddux announces retirement



**LAS VEGAS**

(AP)—Greg Maddux grew up with the same weekend ritual as so many other American kids.

Tagging along with his big brother, he would run down to the park to play ball against the older guys from the neighborhood in regular Sunday scrimmages.

He met a pitching coach who preached movement over velocity, and pretty soon Maddux was striking out those stronger teenagers. Nearly three decades later, he walked away from baseball Monday as one of the greatest pitchers to put on a uniform.

After 355 wins and 23 major league seasons, Maddux held a 30-minute news conference to announce his retirement on the opening day of the winter meetings—just minutes from his Las Vegas home.

“I really just came out here today to say thank you,” he said in a ballroom at the swanky Bellagio hotel. “I appreciate everything this game has given me. It’s going to be hard to walk away obviously, but it’s time. I have a family now that I need to spend some more time with. I still think I can play the game, but not as well as I would like to, so it’s time to say goodbye.”

Next stop, the Hall of Fame.

Wearing a casual shirt and slacks, Maddux spoke softly on stage and never lost his composure. His parents and family—including brother Mike Maddux, the Texas Rangers pitching coach and a former big leaguer himself—sat in the front row.



Four-time Cy Young winner Greg Maddux announces his retirement at the baseball winter meetings in Las Vegas, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008.

“Mad Dog threw a shutout today,” said Bobby Cox, who managed Maddux during his dominant years with Atlanta. “Special, special guy. I get choked up talking about him.”

A large poster with photos of Maddux hung behind the podium. He was introduced by agent Scott Boras, who said his client had a “model” career.

Maddux leaves with four consecutive NL Cy Young Awards (1992-95) and a 3.16 ERA, especially impressive in the steroid era. He ranks eighth on the career wins list, with one more victory than Roger Clemens.

“I never changed,” said Maddux, who turns 43 in April. “I think, hey, you locate your fastball and you change

speeds no matter who is hitting.”

An eight-time All-Star, Maddux won 13 or more games in 20 straight seasons—a streak that ended this year. He spent his final season with the San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers, finishing 355-227. His remarkable resume includes a record 18 Gold Gloves, including one this year.

## Williams powers Panthers past Bucs, 38-23



**CHARLOTTE, N.C.** (AP)—By running over, around and through one of the league’s top defenses, the Carolina Panthers staked their claim as one of the NFL’s top teams.

DeAngelo Williams and Jonathan Stewart proved a dominating tandem, and the Panthers seized control of the competitive NFC South with a 38-23 win over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Monday night.

Williams rushed for a career-high 186 yards and two touchdowns, Stewart added 115 yards and two more scores and the Panthers set a team record for yards rushing for the second time in a month.

And this time it was against the NFL’s fourth-rated defense that came in having allowed only one rushing TD all season.

The Panthers (10-3) avenged their worst loss of the season and grabbed the top spot in the division, moving one game ahead of the Buccaneers (9-4).

“People remember what you do in December,” Panthers coach John Fox said. “This was a big stage and I like the way our guys met that challenge.”

The Monday nighter featuring the top teams in the NFC South was billed as a chance for the division to emerge from the shadow of the tough NFC East.

The overlooked contenders played even through three quarters, before the Panthers wore down the Buccaneers’ highly regarded defense in the final period behind their emerging stars in the backfield.

“Those guys are that good,” said

coach Jon Gruden, whose Bucs had their four-game winning streak snapped. “Those guys are going to make guys miss. Both of them.”

Steve Smith added nine catches for 117 yards and a touchdown, and the Panthers overcame Jake Delhomme’s two interceptions behind their dominating ground game, an area Carolina targeted in the offseason by drafting Stewart and overhauling its offensive line.

“It’s kind of what we’re built around,” Fox said. “I think we got bigger and more physical up front and both of those back are pretty special.”

They powered the Panthers within a game of the New York Giants for the best record in the NFC. At the Giants in two weeks, the Panthers—yes the Panthers—hold their own destiny for the No. 1 seed in the playoffs.

The Buccaneers wasted a career day from Antonio Bryant, who caught nine passes for 200 yards and two touchdowns, including an outstanding one-handed TD grab with 2:29 left.

Matt Bryant’s extra-point attempt after Antonio Bryant’s final score was blocked by Julius Peppers. The Panthers then recovered the onside kick, and Williams scored his 13th touchdown—breaking Stephen Davis’ single-season team record—to put it away.

“The O-line and the fullback did an outstanding job blocking for us today,” Williams said. “They did an outstanding job getting us to the second level.”

It was a frustrating night for the Bucs, who roughed up Carolina 27-3 in October—holding Carolina to 40

yards rushing. A win would have given them control of the division.

Instead, their offense couldn’t keep up. Jeff Garcia lost to Carolina for the first time in six starts despite throwing for 321 yards and two touchdowns. Garcia was sacked five times.

“Our defense has bailed us out so often this season,” Garcia said. “This was one of those nights where offensively we needed to be better.”

In his first game back in Carolina since suffering a career-threatening knee injury 14 months ago, Carnell “Cadillac” Williams had a 4-yard touchdown run late in the third quarter to tie it at 17.

DeAngelo Williams and Stewart then took over.

Stewart rumbled over tackles for an 18-yard gain before his 4-yard TD run with 13:21 left put the Panthers ahead to stay.

After Peppers sacked Garcia to end the Buccaneers’ next drive, Williams and Stewart dazzled.

Williams gained 41 yards, Stewart picked up 3 and 30, and then Williams raced 16 yards for the decisive four-play TD drive.

“Some of the plays were plays we’d seen before,” Bucs linebacker Derrick Brooks said. “They did a good job of blocking us this time. I’ve got to give them credit for breaking tackles and making us miss.”

Williams became only the third player in Carolina’s 14-year history to surpass 1,000 yards rushing in a season when he rumbled 40 yards up the middle. That set up Stewart’s 2-yard TD run with 1:56 left before halftime

that gave Carolina a 10-3 lead.

Carolina finished with 299 yards rushing, surpassing the team-record 264 it had last month against Detroit. The total was only 7 yards shy of the most allowed by Tampa Bay.

Giants teammate Antonio Pierce drove Burress to the hospital and spoke with police last Friday about the incident.

The Giants suspended Burress for

Maddux broke into the majors in 1986 with the Cubs and pitched for Chicago again from 2004-06. The right-hander helped the Braves win the 1995 World Series and went 8-13 with a 4.22 ERA during his final season.

He made three relief appearances in the playoffs for the NL West champion Dodgers—he had an 0.00 ERA over four innings—then filed for free agency amid speculation he would retire.

Plans for his farewell news conference were announced Friday, but Maddux made up his mind long ago.

“I think I decided actually two years ago, but I ended up playing one more year anyway,” he said. “But I pretty much knew last spring training. I had kind of told some teammates and some people in baseball that this was going to be my last year. I don’t think they really believed me, but I think I was telling the truth that time.”

Maddux said he’ll miss everything that came with major league life: poker games on the plane, golf on road trips, hanging out with his teammates.

He didn’t rule out a coaching position in the future, but for now he’s ready to move on.

“Right now I think I want to take a year off and spend time with the family, do things that I have not been able to do because of baseball, and see if I like it or not,” Maddux said. “I assume I’ll like it, but I also don’t know about being out of the game. I don’t really know a whole lot about anything, but I feel like I know a few things about baseball. I’m going to miss it, and hopefully I won’t miss it too much.”

## Goodell wants NFL players to avoid unsafe places

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.** (AP)—NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has a simple mantra when it comes to players feeling the need to carry a gun: Avoid those situations. “The real issue to me, is when the players feel they’re unsafe, they shouldn’t be there,” Goodell said.

“So get out, don’t be there. If you feel the need to have a firearm to be somewhere, you’re in the wrong place.”

Speaking before Monday night’s game between the Carolina Panthers and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Goodell said the NFL has a strict gun policy but also must manage it against the constitutional right to bear arms. The questions arose in the aftermath of New York Giants receiver Plaxico Burress’ accidental shooting in a New York City nightclub.

Burress was injured in the early morning hours of Nov. 29 when a .40-caliber Glock he was carrying in his waistband slipped down his leg, and as he grabbed at it, he accidentally pulled the trigger and shot himself in the thigh.

Giants teammate Antonio Pierce drove Burress to the hospital and spoke with police last Friday about the incident.

The Giants suspended Burress for

the final four games of the regular season and placed him on the non-football injury list; Pierce remains active.

Goodell said the NFL is allowing the Manhattan district attorney’s office to finish its investigation.

“It’s a police matter, so we’re supportive of the police, and we’ll do whatever they need to cooperate,” he said. “I expressed that to the mayor and to the chief of police. We’re held accountable to the laws of the land, and so are our players.”

Although the police said last week that the information they were provided came from media reports, not the NFL, police commissioner Raymond Kelly has said the league has since been more forthcoming. And Goodell bristled at the idea the NFL ever slowed or stalled the investigation.

“I don’t agree with that. We have security directors who are former law enforcement people, or worked with law enforcement, and were fully cooperative,” Goodell said. “I spoke to chief of police myself and he said we’ve been perfectly cooperative and we appreciate that.”

“We’re not going to hide anything from anybody. We’re very direct about it.”

“It is embarrassing, definitely,” linebacker Barrett Ruud said. “Especially since you don’t get many opportunities to have that national audience and this was by far our worst game.”

# Grass volleyball tilt this Saturday

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



The Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association will conclude the 2008 season with the 2nd Annual Reverse Co-ed Grass Volleyball Tournament.

The reverse co-ed tournament, which will be held this Saturday at Navy Hill's baseball field, is a unique one as it is played on a female's height net and male participants cannot spike the ball

inside the 10-foot line.

Registration fee is \$10 per player for NMIFA members and \$15 for non-members. The tournament will start at 9am and is expected to finish before 6pm.

For more information, call Russ Quinn at 287-0318 or Mark McDonald at 484-5133.

The inaugural reverse co-ed grass volleyball tournament was held last year with the duo of Randy Steele and E.J. Lee besting 14 other pairs for the title.

Last year's tournament started with three pools of five playing a round-robin format to deter-

mine the seeding for the double-elimination play.

Dale Roberts and Heather Kennedy went undefeated in four games and earned the first seed. Two other pairs were unbeaten and were seeded in the playoffs. McDonald and Linda Anastacio-Roberts were the No. 2 seed, while Steele and Lee were seeded third.

The Top 3 seeded pairs and three other teams played in a double-elimination playoffs with the duo of Lee and Steele finishing first and claiming the first finals ticket. The rest of the field battled

for the remaining finals seat.

Nina Mosley and Marino Pungilug set a title match with Lee and Steele after downing Roberts and Kennedy in the semifinals.

In the finals, the duo of Mosley and Pungilug must beat the tandem of Lee and Steele twice to steal the title.

Pungilug and Mosley moved half step away from completing their mission when they won the first game, 15-11. But fatigue finally caught Mosley and Pungilug in the second game allowing Steele and Lee to pull off a 15-13 triumph.

looking forward to Camacho showing them the latest MMA techniques. It can be recalled that Camacho fought and won in a couple of Jiu Jitsu tournaments in the mainland.

"Franklin will be here for a whole month training at the Trench Tech gym and showing us advanced skills he learned in Maryland at Lloyd Irvin's BJJ Academy. He will also be signing autographs and be a special guest referee on fight night. Interested Jiu Jitsu practitioners are welcome to come train at the Trench Tech Gym for only \$35 a month," he said.

■ Predator Combat's Nate "The Terrible" Guam United Fight Team's Leo "The Assassin" Cing (5-4) in the 150-lb. division;

■ D.A.T. Gym's Joe Cabrera (0-1) vs. Trench Tech's Fasi "Quikdraw" Jesse (2-0) in the 155-lb. division;

■ Malessa Home Grown Fighters' Brian "The Shotgun" Howard (6-5) vs. Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan (12-4) in the 150-lb. division;

■ Predator Combat's John "The Jackhammer" Borja (2-3) vs. Marianas Elite's Syl "The Deal" Teregeyo (3-2-1)

■ Team Pwang's Eddie Paulis vs. Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez (4-0) in the 130-lb. division;

■ Team Pwang's J.J. "The

Mauler" Mality (1-3) vs. Trench Tech's Alverick "Pretty Boy" Alvarez (2-0) in the 140-lb. division;

■ Marianas Elite's Derick "Pinchi" Rangamar (3-3) vs. Trench Tech's "Badd" Brad Palacios (5-2) in the 140-lb. division;

■ Predator Combat's Nate "The Terrible" Guam United Fight Team's Leo "The Assassin" Cing (5-4) in the 150-lb. division;

■ D.A.T. Gym's Joe Cabrera (0-1) vs. Trench Tech's Fasi "Quikdraw" Jesse (2-0) in the 155-lb. division;

■ Malessa Home Grown Fighters' Brian "The Shotgun" Howard (6-5) vs. Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan (12-4) in the 150-lb. division;

■ Predator Combat's John "The Jackhammer" Borja (2-3) vs. Marianas Elite's Syl "The Deal" Teregeyo (3-2-1)

■ Team Pwang's Eddie Paulis vs. Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez (4-0) in the 130-lb. division;

■ Team Pwang's J.J. "The

Century's Wowie Abuel topped the steals department averaging 2.3 steals per game. Bernardo was the king of the boards averaging 13.6 rebounds per match, while NRG's Jun Estolas ruled the assists department with his 4.3 feeds per game. Estolas' teammate—Badong Camacho—led the league in blocks with two per match.

Diamond mentor Boy Garcia was awarded the Best Coach trophy, while San Miguel Light took the Sportsmanship Award.

Meanwhile, PILCOWA would like to thank the following for supporting their inaugural league: Tan Holdings Corp., Century Insurance, Athlete's Foot, Carpet Masters, Dental Care, Elite Printing, Guangdong Hardware, Inkbox, National Office Supply, Sherwin Williams, Tony Roma's, Western Union, and Gold's Gym.

Helping Ranola give a championship trophy to Diamond was teammate Elmer Esdrelon, who was part of the Mythical Team. The list also includes Cadagat and his MIGS teammate Kae Barnardo, Century's Larry Palero, and C&R Distributors/NRG's Jericho Cruz.

Members of the Mythical Five received medals, while the top performers in various categories were given trophies.

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Flor Jones took home the third place trophy after prevailing over Vickie Isuka, 8-5. Jones won over Mayling Colombo in the quarterfinals, 8-5, but lost to Villanueva in the semis, 8-6.

Fiesta Resort tennis instructor Peter Loyola's yearned event also had doubles events featuring junior players.

Siblings Tiffani and Alfie Madlambayan ruled the Level 1 division after beating Kwangjae Kim and Ivan Chun in a closely fought finals, 7-5. The Madlambayan siblings won over Airi Hatamata and A.J. Hudkins in the semis, 6-2, to book a finals ticket.

Kim and Chun gained the second finals seat after downing Sam Soledad and Seung Jae Kim in the other semis duel, 6-4.

Level 2 doubles also had siblings champions in Clayton and Kennedy Isuka, who topped Kevin Rhee and Julian Briosos in the finals, 8-5. Tomo Hatamata and Ja Briosos secured the third place trophy after outclassing Jason Gamboa and Joe Chun, 8-4.

Tammy Ackerman teamed up with Daniel Park in Level 3 doubles and the duo defeated Jack Sharer and Jeron Ano in the finals, 8-3.

In the battle for third, the partnership of Carl Dela Cruz and Emily Jones proved to be too much for the duo of Moris Villanueva and Aaron Lee, 8-4.

Other top placers in the adults' singles were Pastor Jang Dong Ik, Eda and Johnson battled for third place with the former prevailing, 8-5.

Other top placers in the adults' singles were Pastor Jang Dong Ik,

## THE

From Page 28

will really be an exciting fight. I cannot predict who will win but it will be a knockout for sure," said Camacho in a phone interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

In a more personal note, Camacho said he is happy to be back on Saipan for Christmas vacation.

"I came back for the holidays so I could spend time with the family and friends during the holidays. I also came down to help with Trench Tech and Trench Warz IX."

Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez was in the airport, along with Camacho's father, Frank Sr., Trench Tech head instructor Tetsuji Kato, and the gym's vice president Randy Taylor, to welcome The Crank home.

Alvarez said he is already

## CADAGAT

From Page 28

seconds of the match.

Ranola had an off night scoring only seven points in the regulation and none in the first overtime. He missed a couple of shots in the second before drilling a nail-biting jumper from the right corner to hand Diamond the championship trophy.

## TAN

From Page 28

nis courts.

Tan, who won last year's finals after downing Karen Ramsey, 8-1, prevailed over Yuri Hatamata in Sunday's title game, 8-3.

Hatamata won in last year's yearend tournament competing in Class B and defeating Sarah Yap in the finals, 8-4. Hatamata moved up to a higher level of competition and made it to the finals after outclassing returning junior player Melody Johnson in the semis, 8-1.

Tan earned a return trip to the finals after whipping Sakiko Eda in the other semis pairing.

Eda and Johnson battled for third place with the former prevailing, 8-5.

Other top placers in the adults' singles were Pastor Jang Dong Ik,

## ALL

From Page 28

sweeping their first five matches.

Christy Villaflor teamed up with Ruby Gozon in the women's doubles BC and the duo downed Emily Vargas and Merlie Tolentino, 21-17, 19-21, 21-9.

Gerry Balarao and Jojo Savelano swept Aries Montano and Arnel Bansagale in the men's doubles BB, 21-5, 21-14, to make it 2-0 for the All-Stars.

Debra Fischer gave the All-Stars their third win after thumping Marilyn Montano in the women's singles B, 21-13, 22-20.

In the mixed doubles AB, team captain Edwin Montoya joined forces with Leo Estinopo to beat Eric Pena and Montano, 21-11, 22-20.

Montoya also played in the men's doubles AB and teamed

up with Balarao in defeating Pena and Montano, 21-18, 21-16.

Vargas and Pena foiled the All-Stars' bid for a sweep when they outclassed Fischer and Roding Domingo, 21-17, 21-16, 22-20.

Smash Killers remained in second place after winning in the women's singles B, mixed doubles AB and BC, and men's doubles AB.

In other results on the final day, Bad Masters prevailed over the Red Dragon Shuttlers, 4-2.

The Bad Masters finished fourth overall with their 21-21 record, while Shuttlers placed sixth tying the Net Fighters with identical 18-24 slates.

Blue Powers claimed the No. 5 spot with their 20-22 record after outlasting Net Fighters, 4-2, on the last day of the tournament.

D'Bombers finished last with their 10-32 mark.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	20	2	.909	—
New Jersey	11	8	.579	7 1/2
New York	9	11	.450	10
Philadelphia	9	12	.429	10 1/2
Toronto	8	11	.421	10 1/2

##### Southeast Division

Orlando	16	5	.762	—
Atlanta	12	7	.632	3
Miami	12	9	.571	4
Charlotte	7	14	.333	9
Washington	3	15	.167	11 1/2

##### Central Division

Cleveland	17	3	.850	—
Detroit	11	8	.579	5 1/2
Chicago	9	11	.450	8
Milwaukee	9	13	.409	9
Indiana	7	13	.350	10

##### WESTERN CONFERENCE

###### Southwest Division

New Orleans	11	6	.647	—
Houston	13	8	.619	—
Dallas	11	8	.579	1
San Antonio	11	8	.579	1
Memphis	6	15	.286	7

###### Northwest Division

# 2nd Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle

PHOTOS by ROSELYN B. MONROYO



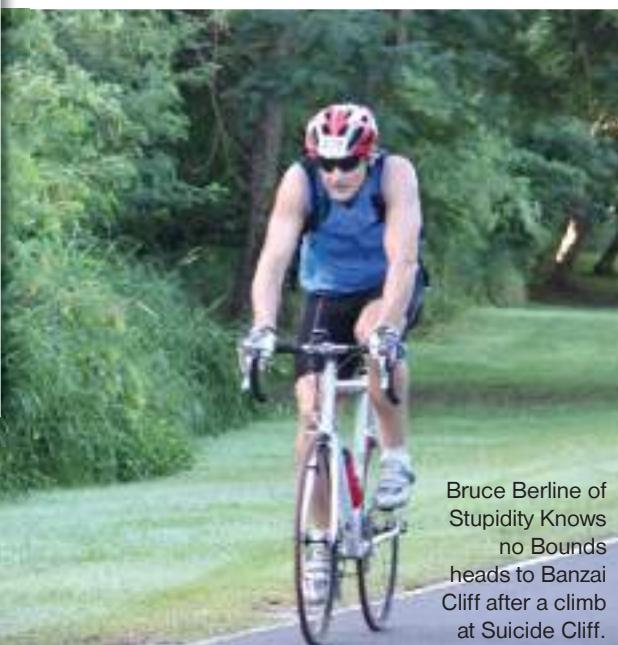
A group of riders heads to Capital Hill from Kingfisher during Saturday morning's 2nd Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle.



Mieko Carey, center, rides with Tyce Mister, front, and Rene Calage, back, heading down to Capital Hill.



Lewie Tenorio pedals up from San Roque Road past Palms Resort Saipan to Radar Hill.



Bruce Berline of Stupidity Knows no Bounds heads to Banzai Cliff after a climb at Suicide Cliff.



Race winner Eli Torgeson nears the Banzai Cliff turn part of the 100-kilometer race.



Matt Mancao gestures as he reaches the finish line in 3:55:45.



Joshua Berger and another rider smile for the camera as they head to Marpi.



Nate Hawley leads a pack of riders crossing the finish line at PIC's south parking lot in San Antonio.



John Jones of Team Manatee is escorted by PIC staff en route to Marpi.



PTI staff and 2nd Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle volunteers pose for a group photo at Banzai Cliff.



## Grass volleyball tilt this Saturday

The Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association will conclude the 2008 season with the 2nd Annual Reverse Co-ed Grass Volleyball Tournament.

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28 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Wade leads Heat rally past Bobcats, 100-96

Dwyane Wade scored 41 points, 10 in the final 8 1/2 minutes to help the Miami Heat rally in the fourth quarter and beat the Charlotte Bobcats 100-96 on Monday night.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## All-Stars

# shine in Traders tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**G**reen All-Stars topped the 2nd Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament after a dominating performance in the last day of competition Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

After nearly sweeping Dragon Shuttlers, 5-1, in the penultimate day of the round-robin tournament Friday, the All-Stars still had enough juice to squeeze out a 5-1 triumph over D'Bombers to finish the annual event with a 30-12 record.

The All-Stars were two wins ahead of eventual second placer Smash Killers (28-13).

Smash Killers and All-Stars entered the final day of competition with the latter ahead by only a win. But Smash Killers failed to grab the lead and the championship when they won only four games against Gray Hawks, 4-2. Gray Hawks settled for third place with a 23-18 slate.

The Top 3 teams will receive trophies at the Northern Marianas Badminton Federation's Christmas party later this month.

Green All-Stars secured the championship after  
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Green All-Stars' Christy Villaflor serves during their women's doubles BC match against D'Bombers' Emily Vargas and Merlie Tolentino during the final day of the 2nd Traders Insurance Badminton Team Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## 'The Crank' sizes up Trench Tech IX main event



By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Former Universal Reality Combat Championships light heavyweight champion Frank "The Crank" Camacho returned home last Monday in time for this Friday's Trench Warz IX: Annihilation at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan

Frank "The Crank" Camacho, second left, poses with, from left, Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez, his father Frank Sr., Trench Tech head instructor Tetsuji Kato, and Trench Tech vice president Randy Taylor at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport shortly after his arrival Monday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

World Resort.

But rather than suiting up for the MMA event, Camacho will be the third man inside the octagon when Saipan's Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial takes on Guam's Rueben "The Booben" Quinata in the main event.

He said he can't wait to referee the match, which he said will undoubtedly end in a knockout.

"I'm really excited about the fight. The rest of the fight card is really good. I actually just met Kelvin and also met his opponent in Guam. It will really be an exciting fight. The guy that Kelvin will be fighting is a little smaller and doesn't have that much reach on him, but I've heard so much about him and it

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aging close to 30 points per game.

Cadagat helped MIGS reach the finals of the inaugural league winning over San Miguel Light and Century Insurance in the playoffs.

MIGS dualed Diamond Auto Care in the one-game finals, and lost by only two points in the double overtime championship, 99-101, with Ranola making the game-winning basket in the last four

See CADAGAT on Page 26

Tan

## Tan defends title in Loyola yearend netfest

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Lydia Tan secured back-to-back titles after topping the women's 4.0 singles division in the 2008 Loyola Sports Yearend Tennis Tournament held over the weekend at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan ten-

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## Cadagat, Ranola named MVPs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Diamond Auto Care's Sonny Ranola and MIGS' Bonbon Cadagat took the highest individual honors during the award ceremony for the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League Saturday night at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

Cadagat was adjudged the most valuable player in the regular season, while Ranola claimed the Finals MVP trophy.

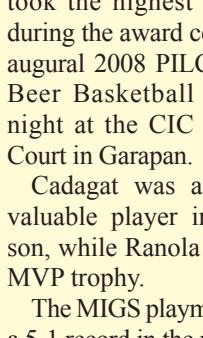
The MIGS playmaker led his team to a 5-1 record in the regular season aver-



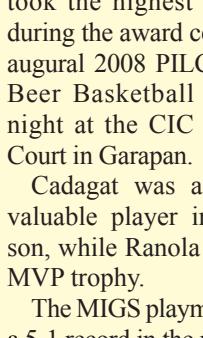
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Cadagat



Ranola

